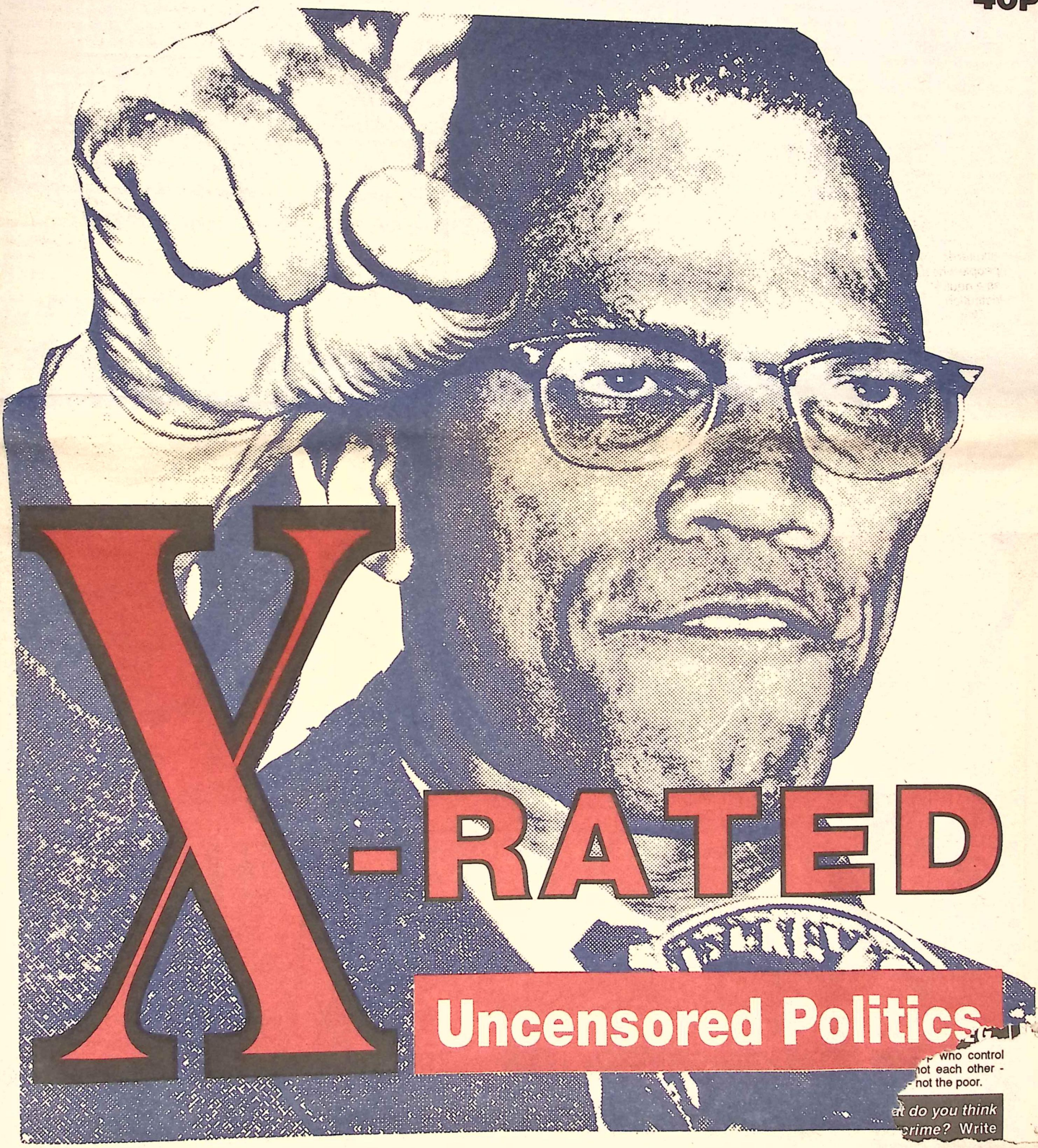
CLASS WAR

BRITAINS MOST UNRULY TABLOID

No. 58 *NOT FOR SALE TO RICH BASTARDS* **40P**



X-RATED

Uncensored Politics

who control
not each other -
not the poor.

at do you think
crime? Write

INSIDE: MALCOLM X, ROYALS, ANTI-FACISM, WORKFARE AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

CLASS WAR
BRITAINS MOST UNRULY TABLOID

It's been an old cliche, that any trend doing the rounds in the US will soon be hitting the shops in Britain and Europe.

But that's not all that gets borrowed from the Americans.

The way the U.S. ruling class control America has given more than a few pointers to our ruling class, in their economic and social policies.

NIGHTMARE

Grey-faced John Major's verbal diarrhoea about US style Work-fare scheme for Britain's 'idle masses' highlights one of our worst nightmares - *going down the road of capitalist America.*

Now, we're not knocking the Yanks as a people, but their country is the richest and most class divided nation on the planet. Dynasty lifestyles neighbour soup kitchens and cardboard box cities. Sounds like London, doesn't it?

The British government has been influenced by the US's attempt to solve the crisis of capitalism and batter the working class at the same time. The New Right coming to power in the US (Reagonomics) and in Britain (Thatcherism), consolidated this.

Despite all their talk of "rolling back the state", they have in fact built a slimmer but more authoritarian state. ***Less services and more social control.***

CONTROL

Killing two birds with the same stone, the New Right pushed forward the selling of state services (allowing big business to venture into new markets, and profits) while the state's responsibility to run services is reduced.

It can now concentrate on the institutions of social control; *a stronger police force, more prisons and a bureaucratic and draconian welfare system.*

Across the Atlantic, the reconstruction is more advanced, with a low-paid pliable workforce: - 'do what your told or piss off'.

Back home there has been a Workfare scheme in effect for 16-18 year olds - ***Youth Training***, with little opposition because the opinions of working class 16-18 year olds are worth jack shit.

Workfare will bring a whole new layer of low paid jobs, affecting the whole labour market by bringing down wages. The unemployed or scheme workers, are and will continue to be socially isolated (through bad press), and scapegoated for bringing down the rates of pay. *Blaming the victim not the perpetrator.*

SMUG BASTARDS

The smug Tory bastards are all too keen to play the other side of the coin, blaming the workers themselves for high unemployment. ***'Pricing themselves out of the market' is their excuse, not ours!***

They make out that potential allies in our class are the causes of all your problems. **DIVIDED, FOOLED, AND RULED** - is often the only defence the ruling class can rely upon. It works and it hurts.

But don't blame the Americans; it's the blind logic of capitalism and the state. Staggering on, trying to find a way for the class system to adapt and survive and create more wealth for the powerful.

In the US the New Right faltered, electorally, with Bush's defeat. The Clinton administration will be more practical and image-conscious.

The Tories have been on the rocks for some time now, but don't be lulled into the illusion that they'll keel over and die. They are ploughing on with their right-wing agenda (privatisation and nasty pieces of state legislation) .

The captain's changed, but the Tory ship is still on course despite some severe Maastricht-like political storms.

ONLY OPPOSITION

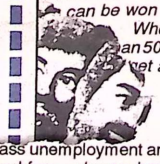
Labour has long been an albatross around the working class neck.

The only real opposition to the Tories is the working class. We don't have to win elections or even relieve our 'radical' consciences, what we have to do is basically survive.. with nothing more to lose.

Opposition must be direct and brutal...fighting fire with fire. The Poll Tax was sabotaged by conscious opposition and self-organisation. **The struggle continues...we need new spanners to throw into the Tory works. And we'll find them.**

CLASS WAR - JUST DO IT.

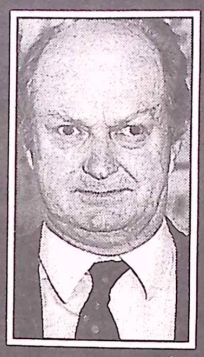
The added bonus to them of using the sell-offs to fund tax cuts to gain electoral support has happened both the Atlantic. In the can be won or When an 50% et an



Mass unemployment and the workfare scheme have been engineered to reconstruct the labour market, the way the bosses want it.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

'We should hunt and gas the working class like badgers'
– Auberon Waugh



'There is no function apart from cleaning left for the plebs'
– A N Wilson

TRICK QUESTION - THERE ISN'T ONE!

THEY'RE BOTH ARROGANT RICH BASTARDS WHO BECAUSE THEY'RE THE PRODUCT OF YEARS OF INBREEDING AND HAVE NEVER DONE A DAYS WORK IN THEIR LIFE, THINK THEY'RE BETTER THAN THE REST OF US.

TOO THICK FOR THEIR HELMETS

At a recent court case of people arrested while trying to rid our streets of nazi scum, the police covered themselves in glory yet again.

As usual, their so-called 'evidence' gained during the mobilisation against the fascist band, Skrewdriver, last September *(otherwise known as the Battle of Waterloo)*, was invented. But this time, they excelled themselves; their spelling mistakes were identical!

When it was put to two cops that it was slightly odd that both had managed to misspell all the same words, the bumbling fools completely denied it!

The defending solicitor called it "astonishing". The cops called it sheer coincidence and sod all to do with them making up evidence in the police canteen. If anyone believes that they probably think the cops are there to protect us all as we sleep in our beds at night.

The coppers were so daft that even the eyes of the law had no choice but to throw the case out as a result of a foolish fit-up. Even the prosecutor didn't complain, what could he say? *"Well, your honour, I must put it to you that both of these police officers are equally thick!"*

This was another success from Waterloo - many of the anti-fascist defendants have been acquitted and no one is facing serious charges - and a good thing too. After all, the beating of neo-nazis gathering at Waterloo Station on their way to a fascist gig deserves medals, not punishment.

The Battle of Waterloo took place when Skrewdriver's nazi organisation 'Blood and Honour' tried to organise a London gig. The last time they tried was in 1989 with the so-called 'Main Event'. They were beaten off the streets on that occasion, and ran off to Germany to lick their wounds.

With the rise of fascism there they obviously thought it was time to crawl out from under what ever stone they had been hiding beneath, and hold a nationally advertised gig, with its meeting point as Waterloo station.

Due to Anti-Fascist Action mobilising for it the nazi's were beaten and chased off the streets. Up to fifty bonehead, beer-bellied bully boys were hurt, some seriously.

A Blood and Honour spokesman, who had earlier been offering the media interviews saying; "you'll be able to spot us, they'll be 1,000 of us there", was whining afterwards to the *Guardian* about how everybody hates them and "what about our freedom of speech."

The fight against these swastika shitheads has to be both political and physical - they must never even think they can control or dominate our streets. That's why Waterloo was a major defeat for them and one that turned the slogan "they shall not pass" into a reality.

FOR MORE NEWS OF FIGHTBACK AGAINST NAZI SCUM READ 'FIGHTING TALK' - THE MAGAZINE OF ANTI-FASCIST ACTION FROM;
BM BOX 1734
LONDON
WC1N 3XX

ACTION! -Greek anarchists launch a surprise attack on riot cops after a demonstration in Athens in early February.

democracy?

FIGURES JUST released show that almost 20% of people eligible to vote aren't on the electoral role. This rises to 25% of those who would now be first time voters.

These figures, which only cover those eligible to vote in the first place, when they are added to the millions who can't vote (to old or young etc), mean that the majority of people in Britain now either don't want to, or can't vote in elections for our 'leaders'.

As we rapidly become a one party Tory state more and more people are seeing through the lies and myths of so-called 'democracy' and are refusing to have anything to do with the whole electoral farce which means that whoever you vote for the government gets in.

WARFARE ON WORKFARE

IT WON'T WORK, AND WE'LL SEE TO THAT!

On February 3 this year, at a posh dinner for the political 'elite', at the Carlton Club old Johnny Major put his foot in it yet again.

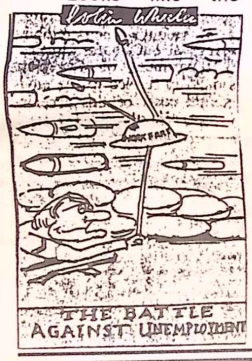
For the last few months the government and their lackey advisers have been scheming up a slave labour programme for people on income support and unemployment benefit, based on the American 'Work Fare' scheme. Without prior warning, grisly grey John announced plans were likely to go ahead.

BLURTED

Following up in true "avoidance of the question" politician style, Unemployment minister, Gillian Shepard, refused to say whether unemployed people would be **"forced into jobs they didn't want"**.

She did however blurt that there are plans, at a cost of £16 BILLION, to set up schemes for 1 and a half million unemployed

Looks like the



government either aren't sure what they're up to or are bullshitting us with conflicting bits of nonsense. Or more likely, both.

OFFENSIVE BASTARDS

Basically, the idea is that to get income support/ unemployment benefit, we'll have to work for it. Now if that isn't offensive enough, the clueless Tories imagining that we'll put up with working for £40 or less a week, has some serious repercussions for our class.

Along with ET, YT, Employment Action and the savage attacks on single Mums rights *(losing their benefits if they don't grass up the father of their child whether or not he's violent or dangerous)*, this 'workfare' scheme is another huge insult to the 3-4 million unemployed.

But that's not all. Quite simply, if jobs are offered out at cut-price, slave trade rates, that work will be taken from those already doing it. Yet again, it's us who'll end up on the scrap heap, fighting amongst ourselves for a pittance of pay, while the bosses get their work done on the cheap.

FESTERING

If the Tories think this will carry them and their festering economy out of the deepest recession for years, they've got another thing coming!

The results, if we take this lying down, are easy to imagine. Forcing the employed and unemployed alike into hugely reduced incomes, we'll all suffer because of their stupid, short-sighted savagery. Meanwhile, the Tories' 'caring face' on the matter was best summed up by Lord Norman Tebbitt *(the Chingford Skinhead of 'on yer bike' fame)* who replied to questions on the subject in a national radio interview:

"If a worker gets £4.20 and hour and the scheme allows a claimant to do the same job for £2, then the worker has to be more competitive".

What Norm the Gorm means is "screw all of you in work, you'll have to take a pay cut to subsidise our cock ups".

HELL TO PAY

Well, while these ridiculous plans are still in the embryo stage, we suggest that the political parties take heed. If it goes ahead then we must make it hell for them.

Why should we take another cut in our already tight living standards, while the bastards sit back and reap the profits?

We can respond to what they're planning for us by being more imaginative in making ends meet.

Quite simply, that means more shoplifting, more ram-raiding, more burglaries. *ALL of which must happen in rich, plush areas and chain shops, NOT in working class communities.*

If they start it, it's upto us to finish it.

Workfare is an offence to the whole working class, employed or on the dole. Those who propose it are offensive. And those who naively believe they'll get away with it ... have the most to lose. *Know what we mean!*

BUSHWHACKED!

The ever popular Tory minister for social security, Peter Lilley, got more than he bargained for when he paid a visit to the London School of Economics.

Lilley, whose job it will be to decide which benefits are to get the chop to make up for the Tories being in the financial shit, got clobbered with eggs and orange juice!

All this didn't happen on his way into the building, which is the traditional method for an ambush. He got his when sat down eating dinner!

Lilly-livered Lilley was just tucking into his posh grub when in burst a dozen people who lost no time in pelting him with the eggs and orange juice.

Lilley who was there to speak to Tory students was unfortunately unharmed by the attack, and was reportedly *"just a little shaken"*.

What a shame! Still, better luck next time.

COP SHOP ATTACKED

In early February the small town of Nailsea, Avon, had a mini-riot when forty youths attacked the cop station after one of their mates was nicked for swearing at a party! They pelted the cops with anything that was handy, and it took sixty police to calm it down.

This was just one of many mass attacks on the cops that are going on DAILY around the country. Don't expect to see or hear about them because it's now official policy NOT to report, or to even deny them because they're afraid of 'copycat' attacks.

As if we would!!!

nice one, Ted!

Ted Croker, who died on xmas day , was the Football Association Secretary during one of the upswings in "football hooliganism" -including pitched battles against the cops.

Perhaps his finest moment came when summoned to see Thatcher to answer for the the continuing presence of the hooligan element at matches. On being told that they were "your football hooligans", and although Ted was no class fighter, he stood up to the hag and said they were **"Not our hooligans, Prime Minister, but yours, the products of your society".**

WITCH

He was never forgiven for standing up to the ruling class witch and retired as the first FA secretary **not** to be given a knighthood.

Just shows that you've got to suck up to the ruling class dross if you want to get anywhere on **their** foul class system. Now, we don't recommend sucking toes or whatever you've got to do - the easiest option is to destroy the system and avoid cheesey big toes in yer gob!

THE ROYAL DEBATE CONTINUES... (WITH A DIFFERENCE.)

The papers have been full of anything they can get their greasy mitts on about the royals recently: Fergiegate, separation, divorce, Queen Mumgate, Camillagate, will Willis really rule? - all that old crap that sells papers for the likes of Rupert Murdoch - and he'd just love to be in a similar position to them, but with even more power and influence.

Well, will there be a monarchy in a few years time? Who gives a toss!? As far as we should be concerned, the only royal debate worth having is should they be hung or should they be shot?

It's a question that has taken up many hours of discussion: some argue that it's far more environmentally friendly to hang them as the rope could be re-used time and time again. Others fancy the thrill of pulling the trigger on their royal enemies - wouldn't Di look divine in a white blindfold against a blue wall?

There is a small but growing body of thought that says they should not die but be sent out to work just like the rest of us; after all there are plenty of sewers that need cleaning. But the question remains: the lazy bastards have never done a stitch of work on their lives, so it'd be too late to start now.

We want to know your solution to this pressing political puzzle.

Write to: PO Box 772, Bristol BS99 1EL or ring our Hotline with your witty reply.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

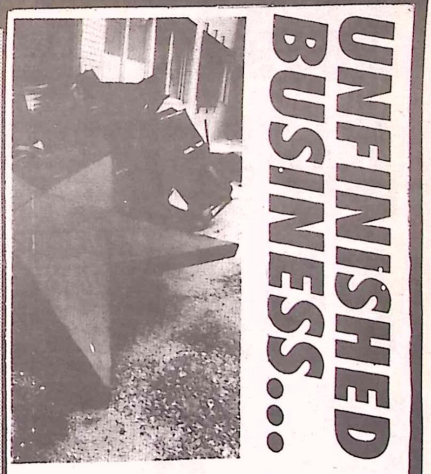
THE POLITICS OF CLASS WAR

As the left in Britain and elsewhere cry into their beer over the failure of their plans, we in Class War think it's about time to throw their methods into the dustbin of history and return to the basics. We argue here for the recreation of an independent revolutionary movement within the working class inspired by the best traditions of unity and solidarity. This is our unfinished business.

WHAT THEY SAID...

"Statement of political intent from Britain's only credible revolutionaries... relevant, thought-provoking, often amusing.. " THE FACE.

"...reveals a thoroughly reactionary disdain for the whole theoretical and practical struggle... to build a mass party capable of smashing the state and overthrowing the capitalist system." THE WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY.



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do you think
crime? Write

UNFINISHED BUSINESS COSTS £4.50 IN THE SHOPS. TAKE OUT A TURBO SUB AND GET A FREE COPY! SEE PAGE 16.

kwik save... fast buck!

The New year saw the start of a so-called 'price war' between super-market chains.

Sainsburys claimed to have discounted 1000's of products in a mass publicity splash. The other chains rushed out their own discounts, and everyone claimed they had the lowest prices and rubbished their rivals.

Despite clear evidence that many discounts weren't quite what they claimed to be, the media announced it was a shoppers paradise.

GIVE AWAYS?

With many stores seemingly offering ever greater price cuts, shoppers may ask the question - how can they afford to do it? Well one things for sure, they're not giving the stuff away.

In reality stores will carry a loss on some lines, as by having seduced you into the store they know they'll make more money on all non-discounted goods we need to buy.

Some stores will in fact make a loss over a short period, because they've made *so much profit in the past they* can do this. Another way of sustaining low prices for a while is by cutting back on wages and worsening work conditions for staff; and of course cutting staff numbers.

FAST BUCK

And if the stores can keep these discounts for weeks on end, in this recession, it begs the question, ***why did it cost so much in the first place?***

One chain-store who received a fair bit of publicity *was Kwik Save. Friend to the* low-income shopper... ***Give us a break!.*** They say they serve the public by cutting out the thrills and selling the goods as cheap as possible. Not nearly as cheap as it could be!

In 1991 Kwik Save made over **£100 million** profit. Fair bit of a mark up. It makes you wonder what the real cost of food is , if they can run cheap products but still make a packet.

Kwik Save found a niche in the market and cashed in on it. That market is us. Their stores are concentrated in poorer working class areas, where Sainsburys and Marks and Spencers will not open stores, because there is no market for their more up-market goods.

BACK TO BASICS

Shoppers on the dole or on low incomes, spend nearly all their income on the basics and need to have cheap goods. So don't be fooled by the shopper-friendly image of stores like Kwik Save, they'll sell cheap, but at a profit.

Next they'll be giving us food stamps, like in America, to pop down to your friendly local lower-income super-market for some shoddy goods at prices which could be lower, and where the staff have forgotten what a decent wage is.

JUST DO IT

If you really wish to improve your standard of living, and get the bargains worth leaving the house for, **we can only suggest you get a large coat or go late night shopping -**

AFTER THE STORE HAS CLOSED!

CLEAN UP!

Recently workers at the Hoover plant in Cambuslang, Glasgow were given an ultimatum of face closure or accept new work practices imposed by their bosses.

Under closer scrutiny workers faced a false choice which could become guide lines for future attacks on our class.

LILLY LIVERED

The acceptance of the deal offered and endorsed by union leader Jimmy Airlie, is the most blatant example of the lilly-livered, weak representation of workers interests; not surprising from the type of union bureaucrat who leeches on the workforce.

It's the acceptance of a deal which includes;

- ***wage cuts (of over £50 for some workers),***
- **the withdrawal of sick pay,**
- ***monitors in the work place which will spy on workers' productivity,***
- **keeping militancy down by keeping workers competing for jobs from outside tenders,**
- ***removal of four shop stewards posts,***

that shows the union bosses attitude: to defend their own positions, but those on the lower rung of the union can expect nothing.

With union leader like this, who needs bosses!

NO DEAL

But Hoover have presented the deal as a choice, meaning an ultimatum; refuse the deal or face mass redundancies, or, accept it and another Hoover Plant in Dijon, France closes with a loss of 600 jobs. *Some choice! Some deal!*

This is the typical tactic of divide up a workforce, so that they compete with each other out of fear for their survival, instead of mounting an attack on the deal.

STITCHED UP

They take the piss when splashed across the newspapers and on the T.V. they boost their sales by a; ***"Two free flights offer if you spend more than £100"*** marketing campaign.

The union, so eager to please the bosses with nice industrial relations failed to use the opportunity to sabotage the campaign, if the bosses imposed this stitch-up deal.

Such opportunities rarely crop up where the workers could have the company by the balls. To waste it was criminal.

Most union leaders, these days seem to want the quiet life, with cosy chats with the management, and God forbid no industrial conflict. *Well get this straight bosses and workers will* always be in conflict. *PERIOD.*

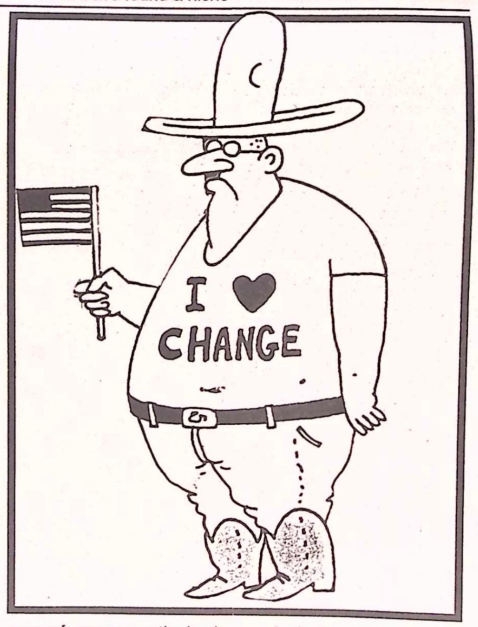
SCABS

Those who meekly accepted this deal in the hope that it would mean the company would stay loyal to the workers, would do well to learn the lessons of those workers at Ravenscraig Steelworks and the Nottingham scab miners of the U.D.M.

The bosses have loyalty only to the profit margin, the company and their class.

We owe no loyalty towards them or towards a union leadership who is unwilling or unable to do its job; they should be defending workers interests, not the bosses profits.

SAME SHIT... DIFFERENT PILE.



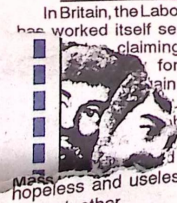
A LOOK AT WHAT'S CHANGED IN THE USA...

So goodbye George Bush, you murdering capitalist bastard.

And hello, Bill Clinton, the first rock 'n' roll president of the USA, hailed as the new JFK, the dawning of a new age.

SENSELESS

In Britain, the Labour Party has worked itself senseless [illegible] claiming he has [illegible] for social [illegible]ain power. [illegible]ublican/ [illegible]bour are [illegible] same [illegible]d just as hopeless and useless to us as each other.



Clinton' first act as President was to support another bombing run over Iraq. No doubt his promise to slash military spending has already been forgotten - if the state of the El Rashid Hotel in Baghdad is anything to go by - indeed, the renewed aggression by Bush as he left office, against Saddam has less to do with defending 'no-fly zones' in the North and South or Iraq, and a lot more to do with defending his own mates in the US military industrial complex, against Clinton's promises. He probably needn't have bothered.

U TURN

Clinton has already done a U-turn over Haiti and the boat refugees who seek to escape a cruel life of poverty and military torture. His health care reforms are on the back burner. His economic reforms (create jobs and slash the budget deficit) are under review because no one told him it was $3 TRILLION!

He's made a few token appointments of women and Blacks to his 'cabinet', but these individuals are unlikely to identify or even try to aid the US working class.

DRONING GITS

Clinton and his team of yuppie advisers drone on about 'the people' getting back their power, but it's hard to see them supporting the LA rioters against the racist cops and judiciary.

Let's face it, the US is financially up shit creek. Its ruling class of which Clinton is a part, will only stay in control (and keep getting richer) by using the same old tactics as before: imperialism abroad, and by squeezing their own working class at home.

There may be a few cosmetic changes but anything he gives away with one hand will be taken back twice with the other, when he feels the pinch.

After all, how can we trust a man who went to Oxford University and doesn't even know how to inhale when he smokes dope?

the pepsi challenge...

Pepsi's idea to use "Michael Jackson through the ages" in an advert for their product fell as flat as a three-day old glass of coke.

After putting film of young and old Mikey side by side, the company realised that linking the real story of his life to Pepsi suggested that a bottle a day turned swiggers into fully paid up UFO spotters.

Footage of Jackson as a child showed him to be just 'too' black to match current appearance, adding fuel to the rumour that at fifteen, Michael had been abducted by aliens, remodelled, drained of all colour and returned to earth to search for his missing left glove.

RAVING MAD?

To play down his nothing-short-of-miraculous transformation, Pepsi decided to find a 'look-a-like' black child and to film the kid miming 'I'll Be There'. Sure enough, they couldn't find one 'white enough' to pass for Michael.

Jackson solved the dilemma by demanding that a white boy get the part - the chosen child was given an afro wig and painted beige!

SETTING THE AGENDA?

The crisis over the pits has prompted the setting up of the National Miners Support Network during October last year.

The network, set up by some Labour MP's, the NUM and Women Against Pit Closures to provide information and practical support against the pit closures. This sort of organised public support is vital these days given that many defeats of strikes have occurred in isolation from wider support.

But what support miners get is crucial. There is now an established anti-pit closure movement since the Tories agenda was unveiled, of which the network will play a central role.

But we cannot be under the illusion that this movement is under the control of working class activists. The movement has brought together all sorts of politicos, middle class liberals, as well as working class activists from trade unions and communities.

SOLIDARITY

If this network is to be more than a bandwagon for a liberal middle class agenda against the Tories, headed by Left-wing Labour MP's, and followed by every lefty outfit that hangs on the coat tails of the Labour Party, then grass roots working class involvement must set the agenda.

The whole point of the 'Coa! not Dole' movement should be to create the necessary support and solidarity for the miners to carry out their struggle and win.

Not to revitalise illusions in bureaucratic union structures. Not to ejaculate over even bigger illusions like a General Strike. The various lefty politicos who believe this is possible are either stupid or insane, or both. Either way they hinder the agenda for real solidarity.

STRATEGY

The working class base of such a movement needs to assert its identity and it's own agenda. From the lodges, pit communities and other working class communities and workplaces, should come the leadership (ie. the positive direction).

From these areas there could be genuine gains for our class; developing the aims, and tactics of an effective strategy outside of the liberal moralism of the rainbow coalition and even the NUM leadership.

An effective strategy for the miners will need to ensure not only support and solidarity, but also control of the campaign. Labourite bureaucrats will argue "that's like having your cake and eating it". Too right! It's time we stopped excepting second best, and started taking more.

Direct links between workers in the same position, ie. the public sector facing cuts, could prove to be an effective force. Though if the opportunity to build links with the private sector arises all the better.

Miners and other workers do not have to be led into effective action. The day-to-day struggle against the bosses (private or public) means they are quite aware of their strengths and weaknesses, and their possible options.

Support is needed, but support to empower workers, not hinder them. We would argue that grass-roots democratic organisation, bottom-up, as well as an effective strategy, with attainable goals is the most positive action.

GET STUCK IN

Those who genuinely support the miners will need to acknowledge this; are the miners and their communities in control of this campaign? In the end, Labour MP's want Labour governments; Left-wing parties want to build their parties to take power; but it's miners, their relatives and friends, who live in the threatened communities, as well as the rest of the working class who are facing the biggest devastation from the bosses recession. There lies the real basis of coalition and support.

Real allies of the miners should get stuck in on those principles. If you wish to get involved in the Network contact the address below:-

National Miners' Support Network
219 Mare St
London, E8.
Tel: 081- 9851905.

ENCORE!

TV actor Richard Wilson, the grumpy one in "One foot in the Grave", had a few less than flattering words to say about the Tory cabinet and other such scum, when he spoke recently at a Miners rally:

"A bunch of uncaring, callous, inhuman, untrustworthy bloody bastards". Were his exact words.

We think you covered it all there Richard, and with more of this we should put more than one foot in the grave and bury the whole lot of them.

arse-lickers

The scab Union of Democratic Mineworkers, under its ex-boss Roy Link wrote to Tory energy minister Tim Eggar to advise him on how to smash the pit unions, and get longer working hours out of miners.

He wrote to say that a privatised coal industry should be split in two. With the UDM in charge of one section. He also advised on how to destroy Nacods (the pit supervisors' union), and that all miners should have new contracts, with longer hours and no industrial tribunals!

It would be nice to say what a surprise this leaked letter must come as, but that would be telling huge porkies. The leadership of the UDM has had it's tongue firmly stuck up the Tories arse since the strike of '84-'85, and even with it's recent change in boss, things don't look any different.

Thanks to Coal not Dole for the info.

crime - together we'll crack it

Anti-social crime (when you thieve off your own) is a serious problem for many working class people.

It's no joke being mugged, having your place turned over or your car nicked. And if you're old, on the dole or have got sod all anyway, having what little you've got nicked from you is doubly gutting.

People who do this kind of anti-social activity are idiots and should be treated as such. We have no time for those who terrorise their own community, their own class.

MONSTER

But behind the Tory media's headlines screaming for "all criminals to be hung, drawn and quartered" (unless of course they're MP's or rich City stockbrokers). Is the fact that the rising crime rate is a product of Tory Britain, a Frankenstein's monster that is now running out of their control.

In the late seventies and early eighties advertising companies started promoting not only products, but 'lifestyles'. These 'lifestyles' were that of the young, rich successful business people, the Yuppies.

Gradually what's happened is that people are now confronted by images that say if you don't own a certain car, dress in a particular way, and go abroad twice a year on holiday you're a sorry-arsed failure.

The result is that some people who can't afford these things, and importantly have no hope of ever being able to because of lack of work or crap pay decide to get them through other means.

BREAKDOWN

On it's own this argument is full of holes, but couple this with capitalisms basic theory which says: *"the only way to get on is to screw all those around you"*, and the complete breakdown in working class community and solidarity that has been the deliberate policy of the Tories, and some people feel that there's nothing wrong in robbing off your own. They are very wrong.

Now don't misunderstand us, we are all for crime when it betters our communities, like the selling on of stolen goods that people couldn't otherwise afford, and the like.

For their part the cops condemn anti-social criminals - but the reality is that they love 'em! These scum are doing the police's work for them: keeping us divided from, and scared of, each other.

Muggings, burglaries (especially against our old folk), mindless assaults - it all creates a climate of fear that undermines our communities, and more importantly allows our rulers to say; "see, look what happens, what we need is a strong government and hard police."

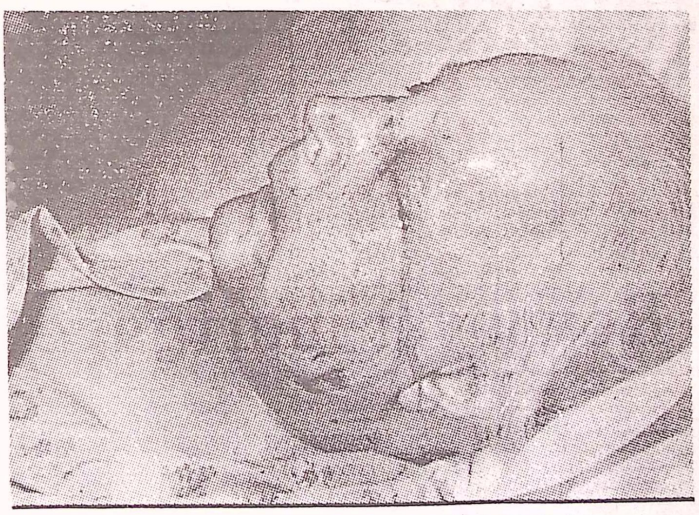
It's clear that the cops won't do anything about stopping anti-social criminals from terrorising the rest of us.

The only way is to do it ourselves, to sort our own problems out: no, it's not easy and there are difficulties with it - but we must take the responsibility and drive anti-social criminals out, or educate them as to what's right, so they understand who the real enemies are.

DIRECT ACTION

In the last year there have been some outstanding examples of this happening right across Britain. Often, the people involved have given the idiots a chance to stop their activities or to explain their behaviour.

If this hasn't worked, then such direct action as kidnapping or smashing up their own possessions has.



Victim: Mrs Jones, 91, in her hospital bed at Swindon

Yet it's no good just feeling proud and moral to be against these people and their actions - our class has to fight the system that forces people into such behaviour.

And that means we must take on the government and bosses to get what we need rather than what they want to impose on us.

To do so means we must be strong and united. To be so we need to get rid of anti-social crime; we need to strengthen our communities against the attacks of police, government and recession. The real enemy are the bastards on top who control our society, not each other - rob the rich - not the poor.

● *What do you think about crime?* Write and tell us, and keep an eye out for our crime special in *Class War* 59.

CLASSY, CUTTING COMMENT WITH

SALLY SKULL

home improvements

John Major's next public appearance in Stratford-Upon-Avon will be with a bag over his head.

The landlord of the Recession Pub has been ordered to take the grey man's portrait off his pub sign by the Tory-supporting Whitbread brewery.

Whitbread, who last year gave £60,000 to Tory party funds, demanded that landlord Andy Phelps take the sign down or change the pub's name to something more flattering to Major.

Phelps took the sign down and replaced it with one that read: *"This sign has been censored by the establishment"*.

He intends to put the original one back once a brown paper bag has been painted over the great man's head. Major's specs will be visible outside the bag.

As one regular put it: *"The bag won't make any difference to him, the idiot can't see where he's gong anyway"*.

PISS TAKER!

Being the leader of the liberal democrats isn't much of a job.

More soul-destroying than shelf-stacking, less exciting than being a Post Office worker. Not even a substantial MP's salary can add spice to being the host of the party that nobody wants to go to, or so says ***Paddy Pantsdown.***

BORING

An action man with semi-moveable parts (ask his secretary), Paddy is feeling starved of action. Having dodged bullets in Bosnia and dallied over the desk with his secretary, Paddy's finding post-adulterous life in the House of Commons just plain bloody boring:

"I feel like a white mouse in a cage going round a wheel thousands of times".

Said Paddy, dropping a carefully-scripted tear into the mouse droppings around him.

Given the depth of his depression and that he believes himself to be a small furry animal, the best course of action would be for Paddy to end it all by volunteering himself for vivisection.

Unfortunately, he has other plans. Paddy has decided to work off his blues "by getting down there and mucking in with the little people".

TEA LEAF

Paddy's going to assist the working class by stealing what few jobs they have left. I kid you not: every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 'til the end of April, Mr Pantsdown is switching jobs to become a coal miner, a trawlerman, a postman, a farm labourer, a shop assistant and a genuine deprived unemployed person.

"I want to see what it's like to be a claimant now", said Paddy, adding "and I want to live behind a door with seven padlocks on it.

I want to know what it's like in Moss Side at night...it's different at night". Paddy didn't specify whether or not he was going to spend a week blacked up so that he could share the life experiences of non-white voters too.

Similarly, we don't yet know whether he also intends to do a few days in drag - if he does we'll no doubt hear about it in his soon to come, "all things to all people" biography, probably entitled, **'A black woman like me really knows how you poor sods feel'.**

Pads hasn't yet decided what he's going to be when he grows up and stops pretending that a few days on a publicity exercise makes you a 'man of the people'. But, according to him, only the cynical would believe that he was "getting his hands dirty" to milk the press.

STUNTED

Well, if it's not a publicity stunt, it's more than a touch strange that I and a few million other hacks have been informed of his plans.

Still, if he ends up in Moss Side, I'm sure local residents will be more than willing to take him down a dark alley and let him know what the great British public thinks of his antics.

PISSTAKER... PART 2

Building workers who carried paintings out of the burning Windsor castle are now wishing that they'd left the priceless portraits of worthless people to the flames.

Having risked their lives saving hundreds of art treasures from the fire - don't ask me why - the workers were expecting a hefty cash bonus and a drink. *All the Royals offered as a 'thank you' gestures was a free sightseeing tour of the Castle library.*

The workers were less than impressed by the monarchy's generosity: "An invitation to tour the library!" said one of the site workers, "we've been working here for months...we've seen the bloody library!"

Seems to me to be one clear case of where it's ok to retaliate by burning books.

NO STRINGS ATTACHED.

One of the reasons that I've always dismissed the idea of reincarnation is that most who believe they've had more than one life claim they were once Cleopatra, a Roman Emperor or Jesus. Doesn't take a genius to conclude that if it were true, they'd be a plague of Cleopatras, so many that the buggers would be tripping over each other.

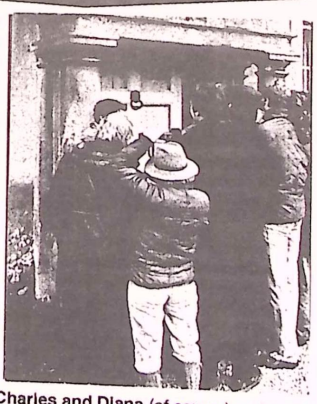
How refreshing to find that our resident student of Eastern philosophy, Prince Charles, announced in the famous Camillagate tape that he's going to come back not as a great ruler but as a tampon.

THANKS, BUT NO THANKS

Tampons are classed as luxury items and come complete with VAT. Those of use who resent paying taxes for necessities could do with a few free boxes - but if a reincarnated Charles-tampon appeared on our bedside cabinet, free, would we really want to put him inside us?

No, fortunately there's no God and no after-life. When Charles pops it there'll be much celebrating and no second chances.

Like lambs to the...



'HELLO', the society magazine which tells the working class what it thinks they want to know about the famous, rich and beautiful - namely, how wonderful it is to be famous, rich and beautiful - is also the **best** guide to which marriages are on the rocks.

In it's time, the rag has done happily-married specials on **Princess Anne and Mark Phillips, Fergie** and **Andy, Charles and Diana** (of course) and **Lord James** and **Lady Becky Blandford** - it never mentioned that Blandford was more fond of cocaine snorting and wife-beating than he was of his wife.

The latest happy couple to grace 'HELLO's pages was **Rachel Hunter and Rod Stewart:** *"Those girls can say what they like"*, gushed Rod, *"but the past is past and the future is what we have together"*. Sure thing...not! - judging by the mag's past record, Rachel and Rod have between three and six weeks before the crystal ashtrays start flying.

Hopefully 'HELLO' will turn its attention to which members of the aristocracy aren't going to become terminally ill. It would be the surest way of wiping out the upper classes.

"QUOTES"

"It always fascinates me when human beings are, by an act of will, prepared to do things which our animal instincts would say is absolutely mad".

Paddy Ashdown on mining. Not having sussed that miners mine, not for the excitement of being buried underground, but because they need money to live.

"I've been enjoying the rather edifying spectacle of the Israelis kicking a few Palestinians around, the four hundred Palestinians who were herded into no man's land are as large as life and twice as ugly".

Julie Burchill, £100,000 a year 'Mail on Sunday' columnist.

"I'm a coward. I don't care what I say about people in print, but I can't face them in person".

Julie Burchill, last seen hiding under a stone with the rest of the racist slime. We recommend a relaxing holiday for the poor hack, at the Holiday Inn....Beirut.

"I don't feel guilty any more. I feel grateful for what I have. Going to Uganda was a very sobering experience for me".

Cliff Richard, the millionaire who once claimed that God wanted him to have a Rolls Royce, explains how a quick visit to an AIDS sufferer enabled him to come to terms with his wealth.

"If you were fighting alongside openly acknowledged homosexuals, it could put tremendous pressure on non-homosexuals and cause a lot of friction".

Lady Olga Maitland, MP, obviously thinks that allowing gay men in the armed forces is a bad idea - seems that she believes that the sexual tension might take the lads' minds off the business of killing people...*make war not love.*

"He said Rushdie was a bad writer, which is his right. But he added that Rushdie cost too much to the taxpayer which struck me as a bit steep. So I let slip this reply: 'And the Crown of England? Have you never asked yourself how much the bloody Crown of England costs the taxpayer?'"

French philosopher, Bernard-Henri Levy, reporting his conversation with Prince Charles. He didn't say what Prince Charles replied.

"If we believe in the monarch we have to present its best face. I believe in the importance of concealment in these matter, and, if you like, hypocrisy".

Charles Moore, 'Sunday Telegraph' editor, explains why we have not yet been told about Prince Charles' affair with Mountbatten's embalmed foot.

NEW S.A?

There have been a lot of changes in South Africa over the last few years. Nelson Mandela has been released, the ANC legalised, apartheid abolished. Now the ANC and the ruling white National Party sit down to discuss the future for South Africa, a future that might very easily see Mandela as President.

Mandela is already making his position very clear: "I believe that President de Klerk and other senior members of the National Party have the interest of the country at heart" he stated recently. The Secretary-General of the ANC, Cyril Ramaphosa, declared that the most important task was "to build the South African nation".

DROPPED

All talk of mobilisation, strike action, street protests has been dropped or severely watered down. The talk is now of accommodation with the government, of negotiated settlements *and the only argument is over the timing* of these agreements.

SLAVES

But life for the vast mass of working class South Africans has not changed that much. They are still forced to slave for a living with the constant threat of unemployment hanging over them. Social conditions in many working class areas are terrible with very limited health care, extremely poor educational facilities and slum housing.

MEET THE NEW BOSS

Even the legalisation of political organisations such as the ANC has not made a great deal of difference. The legal bans have been efficiently replaced by the ruthless activity of the right wing death squads. Many thousands of people have been killed by these squads - and a high number of these deaths have been the indiscriminate victims of a terror campaign waged against the black working class.

SAME AS THE OLD BOSS

But this does not affect the ANC leadership with their plush homes and their seats around the negotiating table. The ANC have never wanted to change the social structures of South African society - they have just wanted to lead it. White government, black government, de Klerk, Mandela -it's still shit at the bottom.

RESISTANCE

But the years of struggle and resistance cannot be wished away now that negotiations have started. The South African working class has shown its strength and potential in the last 20 years. The problem for the ANC is whether they can divert and disempower the working class.

REVOLUTION

The next couple of years might be fairly quiet. But the social conditions of the working class will not be changed. The impoverishment of the vast mass will continue. Now that the ANC is revealed *in its true* colours, the chance for a revolution that sweeps away all forces who seek to represent, govern, oppress and exploit is that much greater.

No justice anywhere 'til we put it there!

THREE BLACK MEN serving life for a series of robberies and a murder carried out in 1988 by what was known as the 'M25 gang', have just had their appeal put back for the fourth time. They will have to wait until June 1993 at the earliest.

Supporters of the M25 Three - Raphael Rowe, Michael Davis and Randolph Johnson (previously unknown to the other two!) are confident they will win their appeal.

The Home Office evidently feels it would be too embarrassing to release the M25 Three so soon after the Cardiff Three. And It's not just the number that's the same!

COLOUR BLIND!

In both cases eye-witnesses said white men were involved. In the M25 case, Detective Superintendent Vincent McFadden held a TV conference confirming they were looking for two white men and one black man.

In both cases three black men were convicted, in spite of eye-witness reports and alibis contradicting the conviction.

There was no forensic evidence used against Rowe and Davis; both, also had several alibi witnesses who were unchallenged in court. The police pressurised witnesses to make false statements, and three key prosecution witnesses admitted to playing part in the robberies in question - their prints were found on the getaway cars! They were also found in possession of some of the stolen property and an air gun used by the gang (none of them faced charges - we wonder why!).

In the good old tradition of the judiciary, the judge directed the jury to the guilty verdict.

Five years has been taken away from these men's lives. Machael Davis has learned to read and write to enable him to campaign for freedom. They have made many *contacts with other prisoners who are also fighting their cases.*

SOLIDARITY

On the outside the unrelenting support of Valerie Davis and Joanne Rowe has got them wide support in their local communities and across the country.

Class War supports *all* genuine campaigns against wrongful convictions. The inter-prisoner solidarity and campaigning from the outside is the best action for these cases. Until we can build a society based on equality and justice, we'll be forced to defend ourselves from the fit-ups and crap of their system.

*"The government and judiciary are more concerned to preserve the status quo in the criminal justice system than allow the many hundreds of wrongly convicted prisoners the opportunity to get a fair hearing. The **M25 Three** case is the most prominent of these numerous cases".*

Our class are always under attack from the State, and the only way to win is to defend each other on the inside as well as the out.. Do your bit!

M25 CAMPAIGN
M25 3, Ground Floor, 42B Copplestone Rd., Peckham, London SE15 4AD. Tel: 071 703 0875
To write direct to the 3:
RAPHAEL ROWE, MP3660, HMP Gartree, Market Harborough, Leics.
MICHAEL DAVIS, MP3661, HMP Wormwood Scrubs, PO Box 757, Du Cane Rd, E.Acton, London W12

WHO'S IN THE WRONG?

On Wednesday 25th November the Police murdered a young motorist. 22 year-old Pearse Jordan's car was rammed off the road by 2 unmarked police cars, one behind and one hitting the drivers side. After the crash he staggered onto the pavement, dazed, and 4 plainclothes cops jumped from their cars. One of them shot Pearse 3 times with a rifle and some of them kicked him as he lay dying.

Even though this only happened a few months ago most readers will not remember this brutal murder, even if they were aware of it in the first place. That's because it didn't happen in Oxford, Manchester or Liverpool, but in Belfast.

LIES

Although Pearse Jordan was a member of the IRA, at the time of the shooting he was unarmed and there was nothing in his car to suggest he was on "active service". The media immediately began pumping out lies, supplied by the Police (RUC) and the security services, about the incident. The misinformation included claims that Jordan's car had rammed the Police, he had been shot running away, that another man was arrested at the scene, that gloves and masks were found in his car, and that a bomb (and later a bomb factory!) was found nearby. All eyewitnesses accounts confirm that none of this was true.

OOPS!

Later that evening an *"unofficial security contact"* released the supposed name of the victim and details of his previous convictions. This man was not Pearse Jordan (who had never even been arrested, let alone convicted), but was presumably the intended target of this deliberate shoot-to-kill operation.

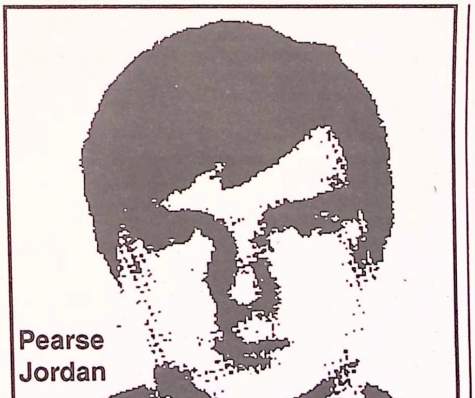
LESSONS

The British State has used every tactic it can, legal or illegal, against those who resist their rule in the North of Ireland. Anyone who wants to do more than pay lip service to the idea of working class revolution has a lot to learn from the situation there. Just looking at how far the British State will go to defeat Irish republicans is a lesson in itself! The State's response to resistance in the six relatively small counties in Ireland shows us what working class people have in store on a wider front. The knowledge the ruling class have gained fighting the republicans has already been used against us, for example crowd control techniques learned in the six counties have become standard practice on the British mainland since the riots of the early 1980's, and of course Northern Ireland is a classic example of the divide-and-rule tactic.

UNDERSTANDING

If the ruling class are learning from this struggle, then so should we. Anybody who expresses solidarity for the rioters of Los Angeles, Salford, Cork and working class communities all over the world, yet makes no effort to find out what's going on in Northern Ireland is a hypocrite.

Unless you're just an 'armchair revolutionary', happy to talk about fightback just so long as you don't have to do anything yourself, you need to understand what's happening and why part of the working class of Ireland has taken up arms against the British State (if not, then think again).



KEEP FIGHTING

We don't offer uncritical support to the Irish republican movement, we have many differences and disagreements with their politics and tactics, but we do acknowledge the legitimacy of their struggle. To stand firm and keep fighting against everything the British (and Irish) State has thrown against them is an amazing achievement. Pearse Jordan lived his life in the same conditions as many working class people in Britain and Ireland, he experienced the misery of a rundown community, shitty training schemes, long term unemployment and Police harassment. Living in West Belfast also offered the presence of a hostile army of occupation, the constant threat of sectarian attacks and demonisation by government propaganda.

Because he tried to change this situation he was murdered. **Our ideas on revolution differ a lot from his,** but we recognise him for what he was - a working class fighter.

X - R

THE POLITICS BEHIND THE HYPE

X marks the spot on everything from T-shirts to baseball caps. But why has all this hype been given to a man feared by the establishment in the '60s ? A "racial extremist" or an advocate of extreme measures to liberate black people from racism, Malcolm X is a powerful symbol of Black Resistance. The likes of Spike Lee or Black Democrat, Jesse Jackson use Malcolm to boost their street credibility. But all he stood for stands in oppostion to these opportunists...

MALCOLM X , or Malik El-Shabazz, was from the southern states of America, in Omaha.

His father was a Baptist minister, the Reverend Earl Little, who was a supporter of the politics of Marcus Garvey (a black leader in the earlier part of this century) and the *Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). His father died at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan.*

Malcolm Little went through school with little encouragement from teachers; he wanted to be a solicitor but was told by one teacher to concentrate on becoming a carpenter, as that was the 'best' a Black boy could achieve.

Malcolm learnt from an early age that 'success' was a white thing.

A BIT OF A HUSTLER

Leaving education behind Malcolm soon got a taste for street life as a hustler. By all accounts he was a bit of nasty piece of work. He ended up in prison, where he began to develop some politics and he got religious, becoming a Muslim.

Malcolm immersed himself in the *Nation of Islam* and the teachings of it's leader, Elijah Muhammed.

In his early days of political awareness, his views were dominated by the unquestioned word of Elijah Muhammed.

Malcolm's earlier speeches were often preceded by *the religious words: "The honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us..."*

This Elijah was a complete charlatan, and Malcolm X was later to break from his influence and see him for what he really was - **a fraud and a brake on black militancy.**

At the time the Nation of Islam seemed the most radical Black organisation in America.

It had little connection with Orthodox Islam of the *East (both Sunni or Fundamentalist Muslims)*, and was hardly recognised by many Muslims. The membership was mainly comprised of hard working

class black people who were well disciplined in Islamic customs and practices ie. no drink, drugs, adultery, etc.

The Nation would often go into black communities and kick out (or kick in) dealers and crooks, and anybody considered anti-social by the community.

This gave them a lot of credibility and support from their communities. However, they failed to tackle the wider problem faced by the black population: THE RACIST ESTABLISHMENT. They would not confront the racist authorities, and preferred to preach that morality and separatism would be the salvation of the black population.

In 1962 the police shot seven unarmed Black Muslims, killing one and crippling another, and then arrested them for assault! Malcolm was dispached by Muhammed to handle the defence. He wanted to widen the defence to a political campaign against the brutalising oppression that Black people face at the hands of the police.

Muhammed agreed to this at first, but suddenly called off the campaign.

Confronting the racist policies of the police clearly infringed the Nation's "non-engagement" policy - a hypocritical policy of non-confrontation with the authorities, the black peoples' foremost enemy, even in the eyes of it's leader.

THE STATE? DON'T COLLABORATE!

Towards the end of his life, Malcolm argued that the non-engagrement policy of the Nation was just part of the collaboration between the Black Muslim leadership and the establishment He even witnessed meetings between members of the Nation of Islam, the Ku Klux Klan and the CIA! Strange bedfellows indeed.

In his last speeches, Malcolm began to realise the role, and the reason for CIA backing of the Nation - **as a safety valve for Black militancy within America.**

A REAL REVOLUTIONARY

All talk of justice, but no challenge to the injustice; a deliberate policy of appeasement for which the leadership held a position of power and relative privilege over the black community.

Malcolm's final break with the Nation came about when he commented on Kennedy's assassination,

"...the chickens have come home to roost, and being an old farm boy myself, chickens coming home to roost never did make me sad; it always made me glad."

For this classic quote he received a 90 day suspension, from which he never returned. This marked the real beginning of the revolutionary in him.

Malcolm was looking for solution to the Black peoples' problems.

Once he started to look beyond the confines of Muhammed's views, he quickly developed **black liberation politics.**

His politics developed to a point where he saw that black oppression is an international problem; because being a 'Negro' means you have brothers and sisters not just in Africa, but in the South Americas, the West Indies, within the former European colonies, including Britain. Scattered from Africa, courtesy of the slave trade.

He was inspired by Third World revolutionaries who challenged the Western colonial powers, and managed to gain some sovereignty for black people.

On this point Malcolm could be accused of being too optimistic about the positive aspects of these new Third World regimes; both in terms of the reactionary nature of some of them and, in the illusion that they were free from western control.

DOLLARISM

He was aware of the U.S. policy of economic and military control of certain regions which he called '*Dollarism*', that is, social control through international finance and domination of the market.

Within the U.S he challenged the reformist Civil Rights Movement.

He believed they had got it wrong in terms liberating Black Americans; he wanted to elevate the black struggle to that of human rights rather than civil rights.

To confine the struggle to civil rights meant, for Malcolm, to confine the issue to appealing to the U.S. authorities to grant reforms, which they always denied!

If it was a question of human rights. It would enable the black people of America to approach the international community to apply pressure through the U.N. as the Palestinians were doing.

He quickly became disillusioned with this tactic, when it was blocked by the unwillingness of the U.N. to grant Black Americans with this status.

The fact is that despite the official recognition of Palestinians as a people denied any self-determination, they are still no better off; still without a homeland. Malcolm, in

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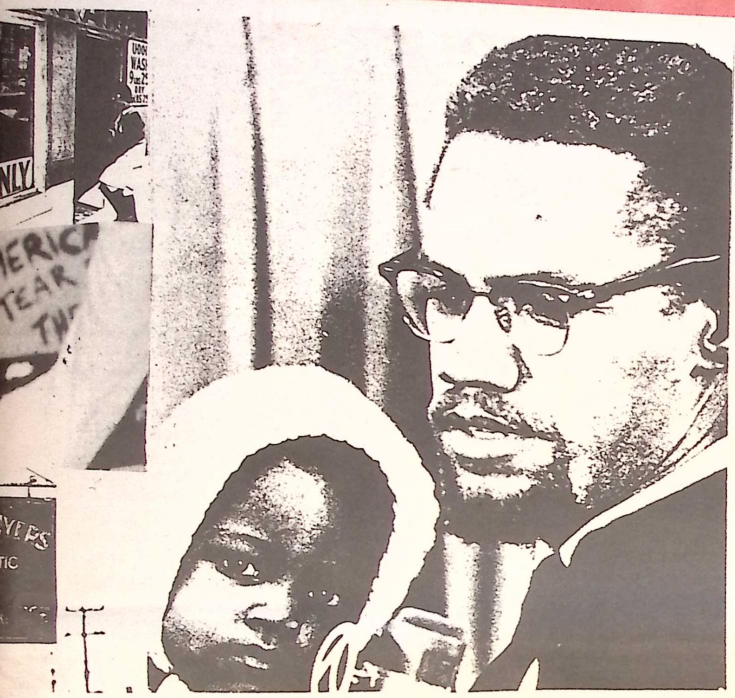


looking for a solution to his people's struggle, was too optimistic about the UN, the UN represents the ruling classes of the world, whether they are western or third world, black or white.

SEE, LISTEN, THINK.

After leaving the Nation of Islam, Malcolm X formed the Organisation of Afro-American Unity, which was a collective of black political activists, who according to Malcolm needed to:

"Learn how to see for yourself and listen for yourself and think for yourself".

Gone were the days of blind obedience to self-appointed leaders like the so-called "Honourable" Elijah Muhammed, or his contemporary equivalent, Louis Farrakhan; or big mouths like the Reverend Al Sharpe.

The underlying basis of the organisation was in building a positive identity for black people:

PRIDE, IDENTITY and UNITY, was an essential formula for black self-determination and liberation.

Without such a process, blacks would still be mentally confined to the negative self-image promoted by white supremist culture.

The sort of negativity which makes black Americans view their homeland, their African roots and identity as backward, and therefore themselves as backward.

This is a problem faced by all oppressed groups, and is particularly relevant to the class war. The negative stereotypes of working class people as either simpletons or mad animals, is just as effective in sabotaging our fightback as a thousand police forces.

CLASS PRIDE, POSITIVE CLASS IDENTITY, AND EFFECTIVE CLASS UNITY are fundamental to the CLASS WAR.

HITTING THE NAIL ON THE HEAD

One off the biggest contributions Malcolm X gave to the politics of Black liberation, was to challenge non-violence and reformism of the civil rights movement:

"There can be no revolution without bloodshed and it's nonsense to talk of the civil rights movement as revolutionary".

When it came to attacks on the movement and black people he was clear and unrepentant:

"...will be met with maximum physical retaliation from those of us who are not handcuffed by the disarming philosophy of non-violence, and who believe in asserting our right to self-defence - by any means necessary".

SELF DEFENCE IS NO OFFENCE

This line was actively practiced by the Black Panther Party (For Self-Defence), who, like Malcolm X saw a real threat to their black communities from the police and other racists, and had the bottle to confront it in the most revolutionary way - by direct confrontation with the state.

When you start to break the myth that the state is the only legitimate user of violence, then you start to gnaw at the very power base which keeps them on top.

The move towards a revolutionary solution towards racism meant his opponents would eventually kill him; he was aware of this because he had survived an attempt on his life, but carried on despite thiseven though his fate had been sealed.

BEWARE EXPENSIVE IMITATIONS

Now in the nineties, pseudo-radicals like Spike Lee (the Black film director and darling of Hollywood), have used the figure of

Malcolm X for their own agenda - trying to give the black middle class some credibility within the ghettoes. All the t-shirts, caps and hype have tried to incorporate a revolutionary figure into a consumer market; it's a case of *'move over Che Guevara, Malcolm X sells more than you'.*

The cheek of reformist politicians like Jesse Jackson, who also jump on the bandwagon, and spoke at a commemoration of his death, is incredible: this Democrat forgets the words of Malcolm X on the two mainstream parties: ***"It's just a question of the fox ...or the wolf".***

His opposition to idiots like Jackson are clear,

" We will organise, a sweep out of office of all negro politicians who are puppets for the outside forces".

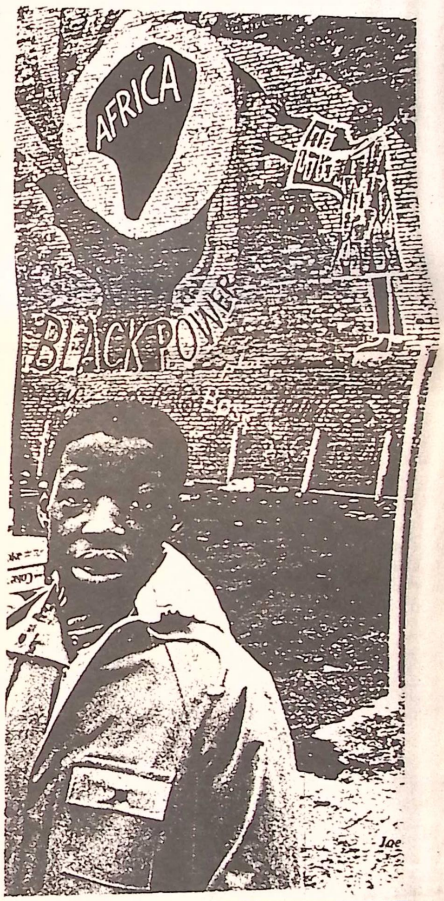
And as for self-appointed leaders such as Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam - he damned himself and his corrupt organisation even before Malcolm X's death:

"Only those who wish to be led to hell or to their doom will follow Malcolm. The die is set, and Malcolm shall not escape...Such a man as Malcolm is worthy of death." More than coincidence that it was Black Muslims who pulled the trigger.

Whilst the Hollywood moguls allow Spike Lee the space to exercise his 'radical' conscience, to get bums on seats at the cinema (his 'block-buster' based on Malcolm X's life will hit the British big screen in March), **the real inheritors of the X tradition** - the rioters who rebelled the only way they could against a racist state - might go beyond the image and look at the real substance of Malcolm X.

And use it to further their struggle for justice, freedom and equality.

So should we.



THE REAL McCOY

As the Malcolm X film looms ever closer, and people wear expensive hats with his name all over them, we suggest that if you're interested in clueing yourself up on his politics and ideas on racism and how to fight it, as a white as well as a black you get it straight from the horses' mouth and by-pass all the lefty commentators. So, here's a short reading list:

'Two Speeches by Malcolm X'
'Malcolm X Talks to Young People'
'By Any Means Necessary'
'Malcolm X on Afro-American History'
'Malcolm X Speaks'
'Malcolm X's Last Speeches'

All Available from: Pathfinder Press, 47 The Cut, London SE1 8LL, England.
Or from good political bookshops, stalls and distributors.

TABLE TALK

During some of the conferences and workshops organised in opposition to Decembers EC summit in Edinburgh, Belgian activists in Edinburgh for the summit revealed startling new evidence into the people and organisations pushing for this bosses Europe.

Their findings make a mockery of the idea of a free Europe of citizens, and of the notion that somehow European unification has got to be better than the present situation.

Their findings centre arround a group called the European Round Table, a self styled group of so called 'business leaders'.

There are hundreds of such pressure groups at all levels of the EC. What makes the ERT group so special is its membership, and the positions they occupy. Their March 1992 list of members in *Class War's* possession reads like a 'whose who' of the top bosses of Europe.

Some of the members include multi–nationals like BP, Shell, Philips, Unilever, Hoffmann-La-Roche, Trafalgar House and Nestlé.

Since the formation of the ERT in 1983, many of their reports and recommendations have gone to form the very core of EC policy and legislation. Their policies on issues like transport, the single market, unemployment, world trade and so on, have also become the official policies of the EC.

Several things are noticeable from the list: not all of the companies are based in the EC – Volvo, Hoffmann-La-Roche and Norsk Hydro. There are also a lot of companies with vested interests in maintaining private cars as the prime mode of transport - Pirelli, BP, Shell, Daimler Benz, Total, Fiat, Volvo etc. Perhaps this is why they have produces a lot of reports concerning transport, like their March 1989 '*The Need for Renewing Transport Infrastructure in Europe*', or the June 1990 '*Logistics and Transport in Europe*' which just happened to form the basic for the EC's transport policy; roads, roads, and more roads.

Again the presence of some of the biggest polluters in Europe: the chemical, paper and oil companies, possibly had an effect on their influential May 1990 report called '*Environmental Issues for European Industry*'.

We list the names and companies mentioned in the membership list in our possession:

We name the guilty

The bosses	The companys
Wisse Dekker (Chair)	*Philips*
Karlheinz Kaske (Vice chair)	Siemens
Jérôme Monon (Vice chair)	*Lyonnaise des Eaux-Dumez*
Torlild Aakvaag	Norsk Hydro
Umberto Agnelli	*Fiat*
Américo Amorim	Amorim Group
Jean-Louis Beffa	*Saint-Gobain*
Vincent Bolloré	Bolloré Technologies
Yves Boel	*Sofina*
Nigel Broackes	Trafalgar House
Bertrand Collomb	*Lafarge Coppee*
François Cornelis	Petrofina
Etienne Davignon	*Générale de Belgique*
Carlo De Bendetti	Olivetti
Fritz Gerber	*Hoffmann–La–Roche*
Pehr Gyllenhammar	Volvo
Wolfgang Hilger	*Hoechst*
Robert Horton	BP
Daniel Janseen	*Solvay*
Jak Kamhi	Profilo Group
André Leysen	*Gevaert*
Louis Magaña	CEPSA
Floris Maljers	*Unilever*
Helmut Maucher	Nestlé
Hans Merkle	*Bosch*
Mærsk Mc-Kinney Møller	AP Møller
Theodore Papalexopoulos	*Titan Cement*
Anthony Pilkington	Pilkington
Edzard Reuter	*Daimler–Benz*
Antoine Ribould	BSN
Tony Ryan	*GPA Group*
Stephan Schmidheiny	Anova
Bob Scholey	*British Steel*
Hugo Sekra	Austrian Industries
Patrick Sheehy	*B.A.T Industries*
Poul Svanholm	Carlsberg
Serge Tchuruk	*Total*
Jan Timmer	Philips
Cándido Verazquez	*Telefónica*
Jacopo Vittorelli	Pirelli
Simo Vuorilehto	*Nokia*
Lo Van Wachem	Royal Dutch/Shell

Easy does it

News that five young people died in Greater Manchester since 1989 from dance floor dehydration and heatstroke, and helped on their way by drugs like Ecstacy, has alarmed the local city council.

However, their alarm doesn't streach as far as asking how someone can die of dehydration in a club in the middle of a city with an adequate water supply.

Perhaps the free market entrepreneurs have a part to play in all this. Maybe turning up the heating, disconnecting the taps in the toilets and charging two quid for a glass of water has something to do with the deaths by dehydration. *Market forces, eh lads!*

Just blew it

Nike, the sportsware company makes its biggest profits from the work they sub contract to countries with cheap labour. In Indonesia, where they subcontract their sports shoe work, they hold 'competitions' to win licences for the work. The licences are revised **every** month.

The result of this is 24,000 workers in six factories earning a daily average wage of less than 50 p. This is less than 30% of even the Indonesian minimum wage.

So the likes of Michael Jordan can get $10 million for his name, and 24, 000 unnamed Indonesians get 50p a day for actualy doing the work. It's a funny old world. **Not.**

No Justice

Class War never did have any faith in the courts when it comes to defending the common man or woman.

But if the Tories get their way you wont even get the chance to sue the bastards who framed you in the first place!

The latest anti-working class piece of legislation is designed to lower the legal aid 'ceiling' of £77 down to around £44. This means anyone earning above £44 will have to pay a whopping percentage, if not all of their legal bills. This could stop a worker suing their boss for a back injury, or a person suing for wrongful imprisonment. Your money is now destined to end up in rich lawyer's bank accounts. British justice screwing you in the dock and in your pocket!

crackpot

The venerable Guild of Fine Powder Purveyors has been rocked to the core by corruption allegations concerning some of *its north London branch members. As many as 25 dealers in Stoke Newington are alleged to have been* INVOLVED IN POLICING.

Suggestions that dealers have given information to police officers are nothing new, but the Guild is currently investigating allegations that go much further—one dealer is alleged to have been earning as much as £2,000 a month as a police officer. The dealer who can only be referred to as "dealer X" for life insurance reasons, was named in the confession of self-styled "honest cop" PC Dick Sonofdockgreen. The self confessd "woodentop" claimed he saw dealer X: arresting people, giving evidence, drinking with known "officers", wearing a brown leather jacket, blue jeans and white trainers.

Mr Bigg, the Guild's president told us that an investigation, code-named "Operation Crackpot", has been ongoing for 18 months. However, Roy Nark, head of stoke Newington's Guild branch denied there was any truth in the story: *"these allegations have been made by self-confessed police officers-they are absolute rubbish"*. Admitting the investigation had lowered morale amongst the area's dealers, he said, *"how can my men provide a service to the public with this hanging over them, knowing every time they make a sale they may be accused of being police officers"*.

Hugh Sless, the civillian member of the Pushers Complaint Authority (PCA) overseeing the whole investigation, said: *"I am absholutely determined there musht be a cover-up, the truth musht come out. Theshe are sheriously allegationsh and if we find anyone ish guilty of witnesssh to them, we musht put them away for a long time"*. The inquiry continues.

Thanks to the 'Hackney Heckler' who first stumbled upon this story.

Oi Guv, wanna buysome speed?

dole cuts

Beating drums, blowing whistles and ringing a cow bell, 25 protesting claimants invaded an Edinburgh Benefit Office on 26 January — writes our '*Counter Information*' correspondent.

Part of the National Claimants Federation Week of Action, the demo was called by the controversial Edinburgh Unemployed Workers Centre, to oppose the governments latest benefit cut.

Since December, new regulations **remove** benefits entirely from those judged not to be 'actively seeking work'. Previously these claimants could still receive 60% of Income Support. Under the new rules claimants can have their benefit cut without warning.

'Any victimisation of claimants by the authorities should be met by demonstrations and direct action at the benefit office responsible' urged the Edinburgh demonstrators.

Other Claimants Federation activity included and Action For Benefit Rights picket of the Central London Employment Services office on 28 January.

Cheap Labour

The new regulations come on top of increased harassment at restart interviews. The government wants to cut the unemployment figures by pressuring people onto cheap labour schemes like Employment Action, Youth Training Scheme and Employment Training. The unemployed are not the only ones under the governments axe. The misnamed Child Support Act hits single parents, involving harassment, and threats of benefit cuts. All attacks on claimants are an attack on the rest of the working class.

The facts

- **Benefit rates are already below poverty level - benefits should be raised, not cut**
- **According to the governments figures there are 2,834,300 unemployed claimants, and only 95,000 job vacancies.**
- **Most of the jobs available have low wages, poor conditions and horrific health and safety standards. People are quite right to refuse crap wages and conditions.**
- **Most jobs don't benefit society, they just make money for the rich or prop up the government's power.**
- **Many unemployed people spend their time in activities which directly help the community, through voluntary work or just lending a hand.**
- **Many unemployed people do important unpaid work like cooking, cleaning, caring for friends, relatives or children.**
- **Many unemployed people study part time at college.**

People have a right to lead a life of their own, at the states expense if necessary, the idle rich do it, so should we!

Claimants are organising themselves to fight these cuts. Resist to Exist.

More info from: Edinburgh Unemployed Workers Centre, 103 Broughton Street, tel. 031 557 0718, or write: EUWC, 20 Melville Terrace, Edinburgh, EH9 1LY

COUNCIL TAX... HOME TRUTHS

On April 1st the Council Tax will be introduced to replace the poll tax.

You may not be hearing much about it but the councils are in as much confusion as ever - spending loads bringing in another way of ripping us off. Whilst the Council Tax is a climbdown from the Poll Tax, it still means the rich are better off than under the rates system - which of course means we are worse off! We're paying for the benefits of the rich.

As with the Poll Tax, the councils are keeping as quiet as possible. You won't know how much your bill is until they are about to drop through the letter box. We predict that there will be some noise when they thump onto the hall carpets.

A CULTURE OF NON-PAYMENT

Councils are predicting problems getting people to pay. They fear that ***"A culture of non-payment"*** has developed; many people getting off with not paying the poll tax will encourage non-payment of Council Tax. We think for once their right!

They had to give up the idea of us all having to pay and so it's back to one bill per household. Sent to the 'head' of the household or each flat.

The bills are based on house values at 1991 prices. The value was worked out by the Inland Revenue using the 'the Beacon Method', ie. an estate agent picks out a 'typical' house in your street and whatever value that was given applies to all houses on the street.

Which means people with valuable houses benefit, and those in poorer conditions are penalised. **A fair tax? Bollocks!**

You can appeal against valuations. But you are likely to find that in order to get any reduction you would need an independent valuation which will cost you about £150 in order to reduce your bill by £25 a year. Yet another con.

VOTE-SEEKING

Regionally, London and the South East, where house prices are highest, would be hit the hardest. Fearful of losing those valuable votes which keep them in power, the Tories are likely to concentrate on any subsidies in this region. Votes make policy.

How much will these bills be? The estimates are putting it at £100 on top of the Poll Tax bills (though this will vary from region to region); and it's expected that the actual bills will be £100 more than estimates. So if you had a Poll Tax bill of £300, and now you're considered 'head of the household', you could have a bill in excess of £500.

This will affect residents in a household who are not considered the the 'head': a lot of tenants will face rent rises from landlords who want to make a profit but still pass on the tax to tenants. The parasites will be better off, protected by their party, the Tories.

The inevitable cuts in local services have already happened up and down the country. Town Halls slash services, often claiming poverty whilst spending on campaigns to ensure that all Poll Tax arrears are paid.

Hands up who's not paying?

Why don't they learn? They'll never get the money, they'll just waste more trying to collect an uncollectable tax.

In order to reduce their bills, NOT ours, councils will cut services, encouraging private, expensive services.. or no services at all.

MORE PROFIT

Though services are vital for our survival, they are given not as a right, but as a necessity for the whole class system to work. The education and health services are blinkered because it serves the needs of the bosses to have an adequete workforce, to employ or sack.

Transport to get us to work; recreation, housing and leisure is a bare minimum, in order to satisfy our needs and to keep us working from week to week. It's also a good opportunity to make more and more profit out of us.

As for the police, the armed forces, prisons and courts, again, paid for by us: they are blatant tools of intimidation and control. And we are expected to pay for the privilege!

DON'T PAY

For those who want and need to keep the money wasted on tax, they should do it with pride.

We don't accept the media and politicians who call us 'free-loaders' and 'scroungers'. Only through effective resistance, withholding our taxes, can we gain power and pressure against taxes and cuts in services.

Just remember, it was that tactic which made the most arrogant Tory government stand down on its flagship tax.

So make the rich pay for their crisis... they've got the cash.

SNAPSHOTS OF SOMALIA

THE LATEST CHAPTER OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER opened when U.S. Marines entered Somalia early in December.

Their mission? To rescue the country from famine and civil war between rival gangs high on local drug, "gat".

As usual, things aren't always what they seem. It appears the marines are also having to fight off rival gangs of camera-toting bandits, desperate to keep reality at bay, whatever the cost.

Relief workers and CNN reporters have agreed that the CNN coverage cost more than the entire food relief operation mounted by CARE International in Baidoa where 100 people a day are dying from starvation.

The real reasons behind the US intervention have got nothing to do with feeding starving children. There is enough food, but it costs money. Many Somalis are starving in relief camps close to markets full of food. **Rich people never starve. Poor people do.**

Somalia is one of the most ald dependent countries on the planet. 93% of this 'aid' comes from America and as a condition has to be spent on US exports. During the 80's, the US sent half a billion dollars worth of arms to Somalia, which are now being used to terrorise the people of Mogadishu, and, ironically to take pot shots at the US troops themselves.

BUYING GUNS, NOT BAKING BREAD

Somalia also has an external debt of $2 billion. Of course, Western banks and Governments want their cash back. To do this they use a firm of bailiffs going by the name of the International Monetary Fund, which after taking control of the Somali economy, began a 'Structural Adjustment' programme. Government spending on social services was slashed by 75%, wages frozen, and trade liberalised, especially in the field of arms spending.

Local farmers were encouraged to grow crops for export rather than to feed the country, and the cash made from the exports was taken by the Western banks.

US FORCES: THE CAMERA &THE GUN

However, since the collapse of the Siad Barne dictatorship in December 1990, the IMF has had no firm Government through which to implement its policies and the economy has collapsed.

And so, enter the US, stepping in to judge the best local ruling class to defend Western capitalist interests. The winners will receive even more guns, and more cash to spend on paying back their debts.

WHAT CAN WE DO THEN?

So, what is the answer? Class War believes the best way to help someone else's revolution is to start your own: By destroying our ruling class and their Capitalist system, by raising the stakes in our part in the class struggle, countries like Somalia will be able to breathe a sigh of relief, after the grip of capitalism is loosened - and finally get on with sorting out their problems for themselves. It might sound far-fetched, but it's the only long-lasting solution - a real one, a million miles removed from guilty, hand wringing, rock megastars and their self-gratifying 'Live Aid', Freddie Mercury Aid or bolster up the nearest out-of-date pop singer's career in the name of charity mega-crap-extravaganza: these events change nothing.

The people of Somali can start by turning their guns on their own warlords and parasitic drug barons, and booting out the United Nations bootboys (and their bootboys), making sure the next few chapters of the New World Order get even stickier. **Good luck to them!**

SCREW THE STITCH-UPS!

THE WEST MIDLANDS is famous for it's now defunct Serious Crime Squad; or should we say Serious Stitch-Up Squad.

The new year saw the birth of a just as new and necessary group: 'Families and Friends of Framed Prisoners Fightback'.

ON THE GRAPEVINE

Initiated by Birmingham Anarchist Black Cross (a political group campaigning for prisoner solidarity), the group is rapidly growing, and includes relatives of eleven framed prisoners. A speaker for the group explains:

"Through our own publicity and the prison grapevine we expect a lot of prisoners and their relatives to be getting in touch - we know this is just the tip of the iceberg".

Their aims are to support each individual case, and also to come together to expose the part played by solicitors, forensic scientists, judges, the press and private detectives, in frame-ups.

It's not just a few bad cops, it's a rotten orchard.

Frame-ups are common police practice designed to criminalise the working class. The campaign is made up of 100% working class people to prove it.

Many of the relatives of framed men have voiced their disgust at the way that they've been treated by 'Liberty' (National Campaign for Civil Liberties).

This middle class liberal group includes solicitors and probation officers who're only feeding their own egos.

They represent only the 110% sure cases - cases that they know they'll win; therefore leaving the rest literally in jail.

The families' campaign gives those directly affected the chance to say what they really want and to vent their anger, so often suppressed by 'the professionals'.

WON'T GO AWAY!

Their committment and solidarity speaks for itself:

"We are not going to go away, we are going to become a thorn in the side of the Home Office by taking action as often as possible.

We won't politely ask for justice, we are going to demand it loud and clear".

For More Info.: Birmingham FFFPF c/o Box 3, 190 Alum Rock Rd, Saltley, Birmingham B8.

LETTERS

SMASHING

Dear CW

Here's a letter for all you rebels out there who do rebellious things to try and smash the state and make our country [and the world] fair, but think we never get results:

We got rid of Thatcher, and the poll tax is on the way out, so let's keep up the pressure and see how good things can really get.

Dig your heels in boys and girls it's up to all of us to make this country sound.

Let's smash the state and kill off all capitalism and greed once and for all. Just a bit of resistance by each of us all adds up, so don't feel disheartened. Each action you make helps make the resistance to the Tories greater, and makes OUR goal of a classless society one step nearer.

Yours sincerely

Louis

WE WELCOME LETTERS ON ALL SUBJECTS PLEASE SEND TO;

Dear Class War

I was recently chatting to a local poll tax activist at a court hearing for poll tax non–payers. She started talking about slugs. At first I didn't know what she was talking about, until she told me that was her name for the police.

Brilliant name for 'em! I'd never thought about it before, but it's perfect. I mean, they do leave a trail of slime wherever they go. She also told me her young son calls their cars 'slug shells'.

Well that did it for me. No longer would the words pig, filth or old bill pass my lips. It's slugs and slugs only from now on!

On a completely separate issue, I'd like to nominate Broxtowe councils' (ex) 'senior recovery officer, Howard Jeffrey Knott for a 'total arse of the month' award .

Up till recently he was happy sending non–payers to jail, and the bailiffs round to peoples homes. But he has since jacked in his job, but obviously not because of a sudden attack of 'guilty conscience'. The little bastard went and got a job with the local bailiffs - M. A. Julious. The very same firm Broxtowe had been using to collect unpaid poll tax, until they lost their contract for being crap.

Cheers,

Mark, Nottingham

Tory tartan tosser

Dear CLASS WAR,

Recently I attended a political debating society meeting at Edinburgh University. However, instead of the usual snotty posh shite, we had Nicky Fairbairn, that old Tory tosser who embarrases Scotland every time he ventures out in his ridiculous tartan suits.

He had been invited by the society to debate upon the world's population explosion but was nearly laughed out of the hall when he appeared wearing a hideous day-glo pair of yellow and black tartan leggings.

The laughing stopped when he started blaming the crisis in the Third world as an excuse for the West's problems. People started heckling him to which he replied to one justifiably abusive girl: "*You silly rude little bitch. As a potential breeder you should be careful on what you bring into the world*" (!!!!)

Fairbairn eventually had to pack up early as there was no way folk would stand for that drivel. He left the meeting sporting a black eye he picked up at Edinburgh airport that week, its a shame we didn't add to it! Nicky Fairbairn – the best case for euthanasia I've ever seen.

Yours,

A student Supporter,

Edinburgh.

Essex and proud

Dear the rest of Class War

Those fucking scum, the tabloids AND the big papers, are always rubbishing the men and women of Essex.

Well, Watt Tyler who killed a poll tax collector and led the 1381 poll tax uprising was an Essexman. So was Dick Turpin - the highway man - who robbed the rich scum of Essex.

We can feel proud of these two Essex working class heroes. It shows that Essex can produce some real mean, cool dude, rich hating rebels, so our county can't be so bad!

Essex CW

a helping hand — all year round

Dear Class War

With the continuing recession, rising unemployment, and a lot of our class feeling really skint, I'd just like to remind people that there are still 300 shoplifting days left 'till Christmas.

Could people also remember to do a bit of five fingered discounting for others less fortunate than themselves, like the old folk, disabled and people with young children, who aren't always able to do their own shoplifting.

Yours sincerely,

S. Bigcoat, Leeds

Hello!

Dear Class War

One feels one gets rather a bad deal from your dreadfully vulgar tabloid.

Ok-ya, so one does have rather a considerable amount of money, castles, yachts etcetera etcetera, but come on I've had a fucking shite year, so don't tell me about suffering and hardship,

Yours regally

HRH The Queen

PS loved the hospitalised aristo's photos, can we get Margaret in the next one?

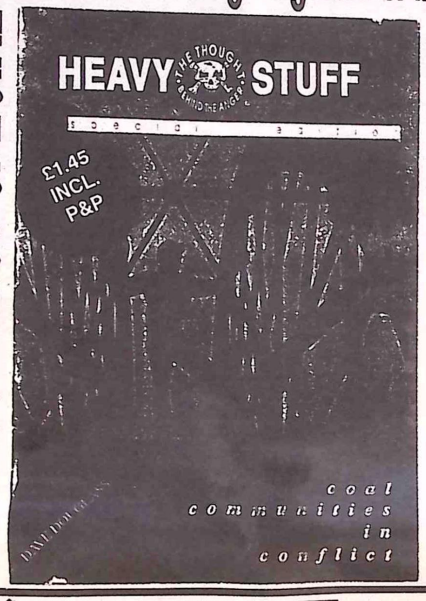
CLASS WAR NOTICEBOARD

the HEAVY STUFF

the discussion and debating magazine of the class war federation

FROM; PO BOX 1QF, NEWCASTLE U TYNE, NE99 1QF. *CHEQUES* ETC TO 'HEAVEY STUFF'

COAL CONFLICT SPECIAL



ISSUE NUMBER FIVE

Check Us Out...

GET INVOLVED!

Class War is active in most towns and cities. If you want to find out more and get involved in your area, write to your closest regional secretary using the list below:

1 WEST SCOTLAND: PO Box 496, Glasgow G14
2 EAST SCOTLAND: PO Box 1021, Edinburgh EH8 9PW
3 NORTH: PO Box 1QF, Newcastle-U-Tyne NE99
4 N.EAST: Temporarily contact via W.MIDS
5 N.WEST: PO Box HP 51, Leeds LS6 1XD
6 E.MIDLANDS: **c/o W. Midlands address**
7 W.MIDS: PO Box 2531, Smethwick, Warley B66 2NH
8 WALES: c/o CSG, PO Box 368, Cardiff CF2 1SQ
9 E.ANGLIA: PO Box 467, London E8 3QX
10 LONDON: PO Box 467, London E8 3QX
11 S.EAST: Temporarily contact via London
12 S.WEST: PCW PO Box 108, Plymouth, Devon
13 IRELAND CW Supporters: c/o W. MIDS address

OTHER GROUPS

CLASS WAR COLLIERS: c/o Dave Douglass, NUM Office, Hatfield Main Colliery Stainforth, Doncaster.
CW HEALTHWORKERS: c/o Derby address
CW BIKERS: c/o Derby Address
CW POSTALWORKERS: c/o Glasgow address

INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY: c/o N WEST address
FINLAND CW: SAL Class War, PO Box 7, 00801, Helsinki, Finland
GERMANY CW: St. Pauli Str. 2800, Bremen 1, Germany
USA CW:
New York CW: PO Box 20370, Tompkins Sq. Stn. NYC 10009
Tacoma, WA. CW: c/o Bayou La Rose, 302 N 'J' St. Tacoma, WA 98403
Twin Cities CW: c/o Profane Existence. PO Box 8722, Minneapolis MN 55408

CALLING ALL SUPPORTERS

The Federation's supporters bulletin has been relaunched and revamped.

It's packed with news, views, decisions and debates that the Federation has been having, as well as updates as to what's been happening both nationally and regionally. A subscription costs just £1.50 for three issues, and if you want to give a bit extra as a donation it would be well appreciated.

Please use the form below.

SUPPORTERS BULLETIN

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____

COST £1.50 (PLUS DONATION?_____)
CHEQUES/PO'S PAYABLE TO CLASS WAR

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER - PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION

send to; pcw, po box 108, plymouth.

CLASS WAR HOTLINE

0850 393975

CALL US WITH ALL YOUR NEWS AND ENQUIRIES

Please don't ring the old number as it's no longer operational

THIS IS CLASS WAR!

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION is an organisation of groups and individuals who have come together to do something about the society we live in.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

This society is divided into classes based on power and wealth. The ruling class, who are supported by the middle class; and the working class. Such a society is the cause of all the problems experienced by working class people the whole world over.

This can only be sorted out by the destruction of the ruling class by the working class. This is class war.

Real change can only come about by working class people organising themselves to deal with the problems that they experience; using direct action against the institutions and individuals that cause them. There is NO alternative. Violence is a necessary part of the class war - but as mass class violence, out in the open. Not elitist terrorist actions.

Class society creates other oppressions based on sex, ethnic origin, disability, sexuality etc. To the ruling class, this 'justifies' extreme exploitation of people placed in such groups, and divides our class.

The class war must fight all these divisive oppressions, on all fronts.

Above all, the CLASS WAR FEDERATION believes that politics is life, and life is politics. We reject the boring character of the so-called 'revolutionary left'. Politics must be fun; it's a part of everyday life and must be able to take the piss out of itself.

OUR AIM

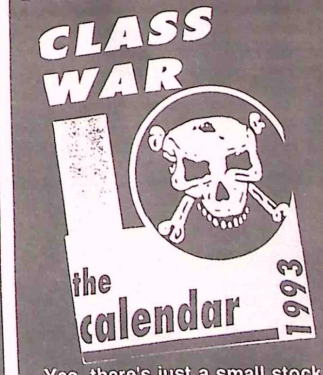
The aim of the CLASS WAR FEDERATION is not to lead, but to increase the militancy of working class peoples' attempts to solve their problems; through propaganda, active participation, and debate as equals.

WHAT WE DO

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION produces and distributes propaganda: a paper, theoretical journal, other books, local and national leaflets, newsletters and posters. We're involved in working class struggles and we encourage involvement in the Federation to do the above - for discussion, and for a laugh!

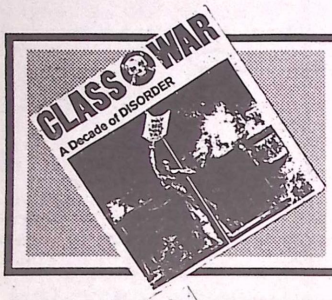
CLASS WAR NATIONAL SECRETARY: PO BOX 2531 SMETHWICK WARLEY B66 2NH

ONLY A FEW LEFT!



Yes, there's just a small stock remaining of these top quality calenders - so send off your £2.00 to PO BOX, 772, BRISTOL, BS99 to get yours.

class war merchandise



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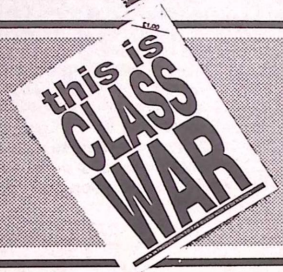

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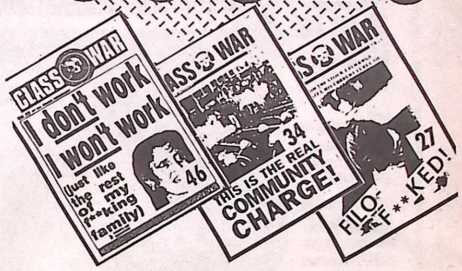

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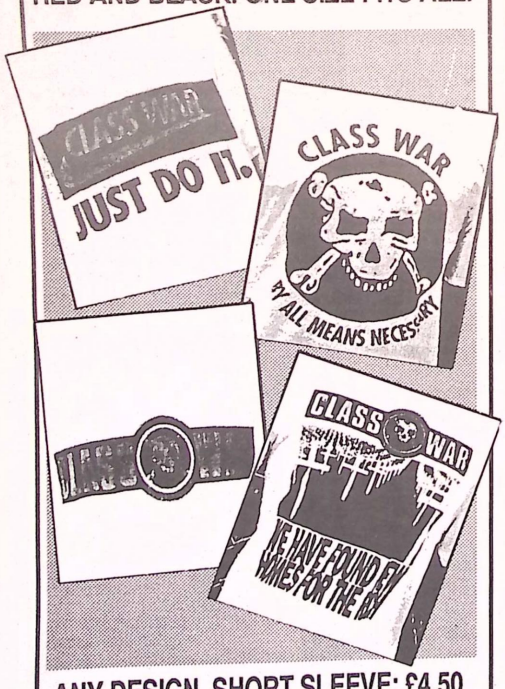

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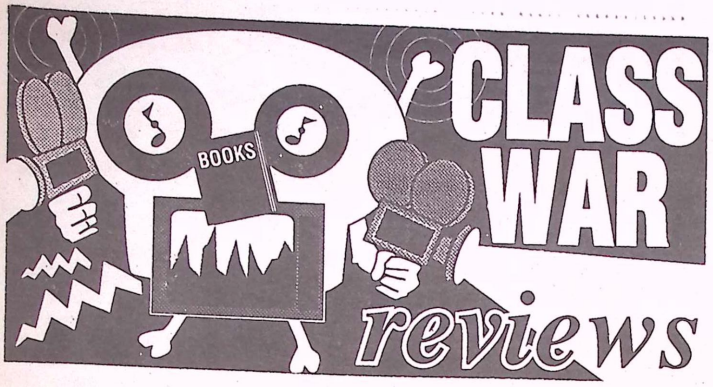


COMPUTER GAMES

SEGA/NINTENDO GAMES CONSOLES

There's been a bit of a boom in these recently - what with their own TV programmes and tabloid columns, not to mention the fact that megabillions of them have been sold over Christmas and new year. Predictably, there's been a moral panic about kids either not doing their homework or being led into a life of crime after playing *"Splatterhouse 2"* or whatever.

A lot of this panic cab be put down to the usual misunderstanding of "youth" culture, alongside a touch of bigotry. Let's face it, if a kid spent all day playing chess, people would be calling them a genius.

They're criticised for being "uneducational" - no wonder they sell so well. This is games culture aimed at the Bart Simpson Generation; underachieving - and proud of it.

In fact, the games have tended to move on (superficially, at least) from their all-male violent arcade origins, and towards more problem solving and lateral thinking games, like Scrabble - some even have a veneer of "social concern" such as Sega's trendy liberal new dolphin game "Ecco". Should be called Eeucho!

But the bottom line with the games, as usual, is that they are designed to fit neatly into the most cynical game of all - making as much profit as possible from as little expense. What's new?

One novel ploy that Sega and Nintendo use is the addition of "cheats" built into the games, enabling you to take short cuts, finishing the game quicker and presumably getting bored enough with easy success to tempt you into buying another.

This is made worse by the control Sega and Nintendo have over the games market, tailoring games only to their own machines. The real loser is the person buying these games at such stupid prices!

MUSIC

BLAGGERS ITA "UNITED COLORS OF BLAGGERS ITA" LP

Blaggers ITA - they're more a gang than a pop group, which would be fine if their gang didn't resort so often to football-chant simplicity. Behind the punk/ska/rap hybrid lies a well-thought-out working class consciousness. The lyrics littered with admirable anti-fascist, anti-capitalist polemic. The music rises and falls, chops and changes, the weak production made up for in the strength of the sentiments. Good stuff.

But the whole blood 'n' guts roar of this record - and it's spot-on lyrical sense - is smothered in a din of rabble-rousing and air-punching. Everyone likes a singalong, fully-throated chorus, but overdoing it leaves you screaming along aimlessly. Go and see them live - they're one of Britain's most outspoken anti-fascist bands.

"United Colors of Blaggers ITA" is available from *DS4A, Box 8, 82 Colston St, Bristol, Avon, UK.*

STEREO MC'S "CONNECTED" LP

This is the Stereo MCs' second album. The first was good; and here they're much matured. It's brilliant!

Strong bass and drums from start to finish, with always tuneful and often very jazzy melodies over the top played on a variety of instruments - piano, sax, guitar - or sung. And that voice... well! Very sexy, very seductive. The lyrics are sussed. Nothing political with a capital "P", but lots of stuff about down-to-earth things: relationships, or some people having more than others...

The whole thing makes you feel good. Isn't that what music's for?

Definitely worth a listen!

TV

PUBLIC EYE

Shown after Coronation Street one Friday in January, this was a programme we might have expected to think would be informative and instructive - it's blurb claimed that the documentary would be looking at the recent activities of the British National Party and "asking questions of how the problem could be tackled". Instead it was an exercise in scare-mongering. It asked no questions whatsoever as to what could be done to oppose the fascists - it failed to mention work done by active anti-fascists up and down the country. It was as if we were all powerless.

It's treatment of the BNP was crass and ignorant, highlighting only the fear they cause. The BNP were portrayed as a movement on the rise, and we as it's passive victims.

The reality is that the BNP and it's international comrades, are victims themselves of capitalism's divisive nature. And that the BNP are being opposed and beaten at every turn by the people who work to educate, organise and physically confront fascists as they attempt to mobilise.

This was a liberal, whingeing documentary with neither guts nor honesty. Bad telly - give me Coronation Street any day!

INCIDENTAL BIT

The new catalogue from AK press is just out, and well worth getting a look at. AK publish some of their own stuff - such as Danny Burns' "Poll Tax Rebellion" which we reviewed last year - as well as selling hundreds of cracking books mail order. Send fro the catalogue from AK, 22 Lutton Place, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH8

MUSIC FOR THE MINERS

CASSETTE "UNDEFEATED" A MINERS BENEFIT COMPILATION

This beautifully compiled and presented double cassette LP is the antidote to the barren pop pap which has become a soundtrack to the Tory's decimation of the mining communities.

A 32 track salute to and for the miners, put out to raise a bit of cash and a lot of sense.

It's varied, compelling, and often moving stuff, and deserves to be up there knocking two shades of shit out of Whitney Houston's depressing warbling. Excellent recordings, brilliantly packaged, and containing specially recorded and relevant songs from people like Martin Carthy, Attila the Stock-broker, Chumbawamba, Leon Rosselson, TV Smith and Tom Robinson.

You can get it from Fuse Records, 32 Nethergreen Road, Sheffield SII 7EJ.

IN PRINT

FEEL THE FEAR AND DO IT ANYWAY

Susan Jeffers — Arrow Books £4.99

Really crap tital, it looks like one of those self-indulgent, "Let's all be happy, no matter whether we're rich or poor" books but this one is good

Self-empowerment for class-warriors and ordinary folk alike! You've heard the expression "take control of your own life" but what does it really mean? Is it really possible in this capitalist class divided society? This book gives realistic practical exercises for boosting personal power, gaining more self-esteem, and turning fear into a useful tool for life (and revolution). Its dead easy to read, and hard to put down once you've started reading it. This book changes lives!

CINEMA

RESERVOIR DOGS

A film doing the rounds now, this is gut-wrenching violence dealt with in a way that really turns your stomach inside out. None of this phoney macho Hollywood crap - the blood in "Reservoir Dogs" comes accompanied with the prolonged agony of several slow deaths dominating the entire film.

The one good line in the script belongs to the robber who's asked if he killed anyone during the opening bank raid. "No," he replies, straight-faced, "no people. Just a cop."

That apart, the film trades mostly on vacuous arguments and blood-curdling torture scenes. Okay, so the guy getting his face smashed up is a cop, but it's all done by a psychotic waster with bloodlust and you're being invited quite openly to pitch in your sympathy with the police. Typical!

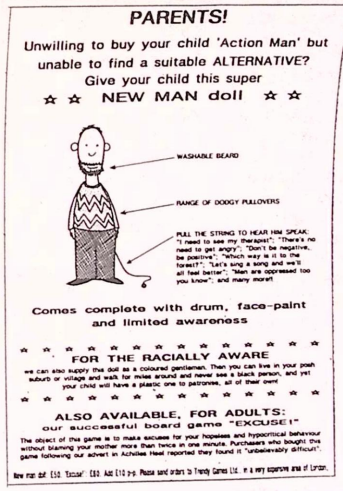
A distasteful film full of sharp suits, cool sunglasses and three million gallons of blood

IN PRINT

TOP CUT

"Powercut 2" — available from BM Powercut, London WC1N 3XX for £1 (make *cheques payable to 'D. Gauntlett')*

'Powercut' is an irregular and very occasional publication that is well worth reading. It aims to be about "accessible and relevant sexual politics" but (unlike other magazines on such topics) doesn't disappear up its own arse. It's got articles on everything from "Sisterhood and intimidation" to "Goddess spirituality" (which is rightly attacked). If we are to be serious about creating a new society, then our struggles must go beyond the boundaries of economic and politics and consider all aspects of our daily lives - this magazine helps to open some of the closed doors.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Unwilling to buy your child 'Action Man' but unable to find a suitable ALTERNATIVE?
Give your child this super
☆ ☆ NEW MAN doll ☆ ☆
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RANGE OF DOGGY PULLOVERS
PULL THE STRING TO HEAR HIM SPEAK:
"I need to see my therapist", "There's no need to get angry", "Don't be negative, be positive", "which way is it to the forest?", "Let's sing a song and we'll all feel better", "Men are oppressed too you know", and many more!
Comes complete with drum, face-paint and limited awareness
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FOR THE RACIALLY AWARE
we can also supply this doll as a coloured gentleman. Then you can live in your posh suburb or village and walk for miles around and never see a black person, and yet your child will have a plastic one to patronise, all of their own!
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ALSO AVAILABLE, FOR ADULTS:
our successful board game "EXCUSE!"
The object of this game is to make excuses for your hopeless and hypocritical behaviour without blaming your mother more than twice in one minute. Purchasers who bought the game following our advert in Achilles Heel reported they found it "unbelievably difficult".

BASHING THE BASTARDS

"The 43 Group" by Morris Beckman (Centerprise Publications)

This book is subtitled "the untold story of the fight against fascism" and is written by a founder member of an organisation known as 'the 43 Group was set up in 1946 by mainly Jewish ex-servicemen who were appalled to see the fascists openly organising in this country. No-one else would do anything about them (like the government, the police, the established organisations) so they decided that they had to do it themselves. And they had no illusions about how to treat the fascists — physical confrontation was the way forward and there are some excellent stories here of the fascists getting badly turned over.

There are a few short comings in the book — for example, there is no attempt to explain the rise in fascism and the links between fascists and the state are never fully developed. It would be worth reading 'Fascism and Anti—Fascism' by Jean Barrot (recently republished by Unpopular books) to get a view on the political aspects of the struggle against fascist ideas. Nonetheless, 'The 43 Group' is a good read — as it says in the introduction, (which, amazingly, is by Vidal Sassoon, another member of the group): "Never again! became a command not a slogan"... some words that a lot of the left today have seemingly forgotten.

THE BEAST MUST CRY!

CALL THEM what you want: pigs, Babylon, the Beast or just the plain old filth; one thing is for certain, as we venture further into the '90s, the police are going to have a rough ride.

On-duty or off duty, they seem to be on the wrong side of a good beating, for a change. The Dixon of Dock Green image is well and truly buried, along with a long line of other PCs who have kicked the bucket.

Gone are the days when most of our class are shocked at attacks on the cops.

LACK OF RESPECT

When Harry Roberts killed three coppers in the Summer of 1966, the public outcry raised £70,000 in donations to the dead coppers' families. No doubt, some were from blinkered working class people who saw the police as a neutral and respecful institution.

Now, in the 1990s, this clearly is not the case. Still, some people hold the police in high esteem, but the number of people who see the cops as their enemy is on the increase. Bad news, Constables, the trend is unlikely to reverse itself!

During the '80s, the Thatcher regime gave more powers to the police. They used the police to a much greater degree; they knew that their agenda to change the shape of Britain would seriously rock the boat - **conflict was inevitable**, and the New Right under her, used the cops as their first line of attack.

From the pre-planned confrontation with the MIners in '84-85, to the inner city rebellions, and of course the poll tax uprisings, the police were very quickly developing a more political role.

Even the whingeing liberal middle classes were getting scared of the growing powers of the police in such confrontations and disputes.

During the trial of the miners arrested during 'The Battle of Orgreave' (1984), for the first time it was revealed that there was an internal document

(widely read within 'the Force') called '***The Public Order Manual***'.

WHAT ARE THEY FOR?

This was, and still is, part of the hidden agenda of the police, what they're really there to do and who for. The Police Forces of this country always deny that they're one body. They're obviously talking through their helmets:

The Association of Police Chiefs works as a co-ordinating body for their political agenda. They want more power to go about their business.

So what is their business? Having the clout

to go into certain districts, **unrestrained** by a lack of officers and more importantly, by the calls of moderation from the liberal establishment on heavy policing tactics. Control of the streets is the number one priority of the cops, and don't they just love to try it on?

But the powers go beyond what is considered as "***hostile areas***". They want to control all areas - to be and remain the biggest gang in town.

Take for instance, festivals and raves. Last Summer, in the massively expensive '*Operation Nomad*' three different police forces tried to stop the Avon free festival from happening. The result, to their horror, was to create the biggest festival/rave that this country's ever seen.

If you think how difficult it is to stop vehicles from parking up on any piece of common land, throughout three counties, you get an idea of the massive scale of their operation.

The police continued their 'no party here' policy throughout the Summer. What are they afraid of? What are they up to? Well, it's simple, they can't stand, they in fact hate, anything outside their official control. *Raves and festivals are obvious no-go zones for the cops; it is also a self-organised culture.*

They'd rather stop all these free parties in favour of legal, paying raves that are infinitely easier to control. Ravers and travellers are waiting for the Spring assault. What lengths will they go to stop partying...and have they thought how difficult we'll be to police when they're chasing around the Green fields of England after party-goers?

A STITCH-UP IN TIME

Many people languising in our jails are innocent. It's not exaggeration that most police forces practice frame-ups.

It means higher arrest and conviction rates ie better "*performance indicators*"; *for more funding, and more* Brownie points for those eager constables working their way to promotion and more power.

On top of their power-mad policies, the Force has within its ranks EVERY form of bigotry and prejudice that makes our society a shit place to be.

COP CULTURE

They argue that they're '*no better or worse than the general public*'. Even if this were true, which it is NOT, the power they exercise makes it much easier for them to carry out (and get paid for) anti-social beahviour .

They get away with more racism, sexism and gay-bashing than the average bigot on the street.

Now, more than ever, their public credibility is shot to pieces; and so is their image of being all-powerful - the fear factor's being reduced.

In January 1993, a crowd of youth surrounded and attacked a police station in Nailsea, near Bristol. One lad had been nicked, for swearing at a copper, of all things (!) so his friends decided to have a go. **Even in its own lair, the Beast is vulnerable!**

So despite £MILLIONS being spent on the establishment's ideological war - *sympathetic newspaper articles, cop series, Crimewatch, Neighbourhood watch etc.*, to get us to support the police, the reality of the cops' power hits people in their daily lives.

WE DON'T say all attacks on the cops are done by 'class concious warriors'. *Some are by nasty bastards who'd batter their own if they got in their way. These people are, to say the least, seriously misguided and it's up to us to sort 'em out.*

The real point is that if we are serious about taking back control of our lives, and trying to make our world a better place, then the police are a day-to-day obstacle that we have to overcome.

When they lose public support and are seen as the obvious political tools of our masters; when they lose the sole right to use violence - that is when our struggle can be so much stronger - by their weakness.

When the police are no longer able to control the working class through fear, violence, misplaced respect, and stitch-ups, we have the option to act in solidarity to sweep away the things that screw up our class and our world.

The cops are the ruling class's boot boys and girls, purely and simply.

VIOLENCE IS POWER: THEIRS AND OURS.

A SPECIAL constable was facing an operat...
after he was brutally beaten by a group of thugs when on...
yelled: "Get the pig – kill him!"
David Nichols was hit in the ground by a punch to the face and
repeatedly kick...
His cheekbone were... and he suffere... eyes, extensive... and swelling to... and a deep cut... ridge of his... caused by a rung...
The incident happened... as a result of duty, war... this was on the Ringland... walking Club... Lisvane... Cardiff.
Already... He was accosted by a... group of youths walking... from the direction of the... Friendship pub. Some of... them appeared to be... carrying glasses of beer.
Police said one of the... youths agreed to recog... him and shouted that... they were going to... kill him...
extent of his injuries until... the morning after the at... tack. He was then taken to... the Royal Gwent Hospital... Newport, where he was...
GET THE PIG!
'Disgraceful off-duty special constable attack' on

Go on, get a head of the crowd...

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COUNTER INFORMATION

MARCH/APRIL/MAY 1993

LEVEL PLAYING FIELD?

DESPITE a virtual press black-out, local actions are continuing against the pit closure programme. Dozens of towns have seen marches or rallies, and many of the 1984-5 Miners' Support Groups have been reactivated.

Some of the most dynamic actions have come from Women Against Pit Closures. In December they occupied the offices of Armthorpe colliery for a whole weekend, emerging to be cheered by a 500-strrong crowd. In mid-January they set up non-stop 24-hour camps outside the ten pits threatened with immediate closure, promising to keep them going until the future of all pits is secured. On 6 February they organised a demo in London which won considerable support.

Both actions have breathed new life into a grassroots campaign, showing that we don't have to rely on scum like politicians or High Court judges. With redundancies piling up every day, the women who occupied Armthorpe know the score: "it's not just about the miners, it's everybody—health workers, British Rail, all of us."

Contact: National Miners' Support Network, 219 Mare Street, London E8 3QQ (tel. 081 985 1905); Women Against Pit Closures, tel. 0782 281246.

Class Warfare not Workfare

DEFY THE CHILD SUPPORT ACT

FROM April 1993 the new Child Support Act will be used to try to force single parents (usually women) on grants and benefits to name the absent parent of their children.

The government is setting up the "Child Support Agency" to track down these absent fathers and force them to pay "maintenance". The Treasury will pocket ALL the "maintenance" - the children will get NOTHING.

The Campaign against the Child Support Act is calling for a national campaign of non-cooperation with the Act to make it unworkable. Millions of people defied and defeated the Poll Tax. We could do this again against the Child Support Act. We have to work together locally and nationally to destroy this Act and similar attacks.

Pickets and protests have been held at official Child Support Agency presentations in Aberdeen, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Heathrow, London and Manchester. The Campaign Against the Child Support Act has forced the DSS to back down in over 30 cases where they were illegally harassing single mothers. Now CACSA are holding a national conference in London on 20 February to co-ordinate grass-roots opposition.

CACSA, PO Box 287, London NW6 5QU. Tel. 071 837 7509.

RESIST ALL BENEFIT CUTS

BEATING drums, blowing whistles and ringing a cow bell, 25 protesting claimants invaded an Edinburgh Benefit Office on 26 January.

Part of the National Claimants Federation Week of Action, the demo was called by **Edinburgh Unemployed Workers Centre** to oppose the government's latest benefit cuts.

New regulations, introduced in December, remove benefits entirely from those judged not to be "actively seeking work". Previously these claimants could still receive 60% of income support. What's more, under the new rules claimants can have their benefit cut **without warning**.

"Any victimisation of claimants by the benefit authorities should be met by demonstrations and direct action at the benefit office responsible," urged the Edinburgh protesters - as for half an hour they drummed, blew whistles, paraded with placards and banners, made speeches and distributed leaflets to staff amd claimants **inside** the High Riggs Unemployment Benefit Office.

Other Claimants Federation activity included an Action for Benefit Rights picket of the Central London Employment Services office on 28 January and mass Benefit Office leafleting by Swindon Unemployed Movement and Brighton Unemployed Workers Centre.

With John Major's February speech advocating "workfare" the need is clear for direct action by claimants and workers to stop any such moves towards compulsory work for dole.

EDINBURGH UNEMPLOYED WORKERS CENTRE,103 Broughton St.. Tel. 031 557 0718. Open 12 -4pm weekdays. Postal addres : EUWC,c/o 1st Floor, 20 Melville Terrace, Edinburgh EH9 1LY. ACTION FOR BENEFIT RIGHTS c/o 11 Barnsbury Rd., London N1 0HG

Water belongs to everyone

"We won't pay for privatised water" say 3,000 in Glasgow on 21 Nov...

WATER theft threatens Scotland. But local community groups are forming to sink government plans to introduce a water privatisation bill this autumn.

Broughton Hands Off Water in Edinburgh declare : "We promise the pirate privatisers that * We won't be paying the private water bills * There will be massive action and resistance against any disconnections or installation of water meters * water privatisation will be stopped."

3,000 marched in the Hands Off Our Water demo in Glasgow on 21 November, with speakers advocating non-payment. In January HOW activists cut off the water supply to the house of Scottish Secretary of State Ian Lang! Local groups already exist in Strathclyde and Lothian.

8,000 took to the streets of Glasgow on 30 January to oppose water privatisation. But the strictly legal protest strategy advocated by the Labour Party and the STUC (the demo organisers) will never stop the Tory water thieves.

As with the poll tax, mass non-payment can win. And grass-roots activists must be ready to totally oppose the government's likely choice of the franchising option for Scottish water - a choice aimed at introducing the massively unpopular privatisation option gradually, through the back door.

In England and Wales water is already privatised. Bills and disconnections are soaring. But resistance has started. In October residents in 5 estates in Carshalton, Surrey blocked roads to stop Thames Water contractors installing water meters. Some water stopcocks have been completely sealed with cement!

RESISTANCE IN EDINBURGH : Broughton 031 558 3153. Stockbridge New Town 667 4299. Haymarket Tollcross 229 7487.

ITALY

20,000 marched in Milan on 20 November as various grass-roots workers' organisations called a national strike against the government's austerity programme. While the level of struggle has fallen since autumn, and the self-organised workers' movement is experiencing some divisions, workers' direct actions - occupations, blockades of roads, railways etc. - continue round Italy.

✪ AGAINST RACISM, AGAINST FASCISM, AGAINST THE STATE ✪

HOW best to resist racism and fascism?

Anti racist activity must be based in everyday life in the community, in workplaces, in schools and colleges. Two good examples - Newham Monitoring Project in east London have organised anti racist street patrols in areas like Canning Town. When Kuldip Sekhon was murdered by a racist in January 1990, the Southall community organised a march and 1 day strike which effectively shut down the west London borough.

Fascists must be physically stopped from organising marches, meetings, paper sales or any public activity. This is vital to stop the racist harassment and attacks which the fascists incite and organise.

Simultaneously anti racists must resist the most powerful racists - the governments. EC governments, backed by their parliamentary 'oppositions' such as Britain's Labour Party, are combining to turn back refugees fleeing wars, imprisonment, torture and death - devastation itself a product of exploitation by multinationals, the International Monetary Fund, and western arms sales.

Racist state immigration controls are always linked to the profit needs of capitalism. In the booming 50's and 60's Western Europe welcomed immigrants as intended cheap labour. Now, with the recession, the EC are building Fortress Europe. **Anti racists must organise material support for, and solidarity with, refugees and all threatened with deportation.**

Anti racism should not be seen as a "single issue". For example Southall Black Sisters and the Southall Monitoring Group combine resistance to racism with opposition to male domestic violence and support for workers' struggles and community campaigns against injustice.

Britain's "national" anti fascist groups have significant weaknesses. The Anti Nazi League (SWP dominated) and the Anti Racist Alliance *(Labour orientated) are not usually prepared to initiate mass direct action to stop the fascists. They do not seriously oppose state racism,* and do nothing to promote anti capitalist struggle. Anti Fascist Action **do** have a positive policy of stopping the fascists..But everyday resistance to immigration controls, deportations, police oppression, and other institutionalised racism is equally vital.

And, crucially, fighting racism involves helping build widespread resistance to all capitalist attacks; in the course of such struggles black/white divisions can be overcome.

As the Southall Review say : **"The fight against racism in the final analysis is the fight against exploitation. It's a fight for class.... It is also a fight against imperialism. All the fights, for the sisters, the gays, they are all symbiotic, they cannot be divided."**

Thanks to Southall Monitoring Group/CAFE bulletin.

A GULF IN STANDARDS

The latest air-raids in southern Iraq have rebounded on the West.Not only did allied planes miss targets,kill 20 including civilians, and reinforce Saddam's power within Iraq. With Kurdish areas facing attack and marsh arabs still being persecuted, it also undermined the position of Arab states who supported the Gulf War. Reports reveal medical deformities among the Iraqi population arising from Allied bombing 2 years ago.

With Bush's departure from the White House, even UN 'glove puppet' Secretary-General Boutrous Galli has come out against the "double standards" of selective implementation of UN resolutions. The episode of expelled palestinian Hammas sympathisers on a south Lebanon hillside,with the US in particular protecting Israel, is the clearest example of the double-standards built into the "new world order".

A Clean Up Act

The environmental crisis in Shetland surrounding the oil tanker, Braer, has illustrated the worldwide risk that capitalism poses to the survival of species. The overriding concern of Government and oil companies alike has been to clean up their image,tatterred by this latest massive oil spillage.

As with the Exxon Valdese, off Alaska,the spectacle of threats to wildnerness and wildlife (even more than their culpibility over the Piper Alpha oil rig explosion, Herald of Free Enterprise ferry disaster etc) has exposed how vulnerable we are to the ravages of a system which places profit and exploitation before life. The course of the ship, it's lack of maintenance and 'Flags of Convenience' are all symptoms arising from an economy based on production for profit.

2 weeks later and a massive slick resulted from another ruptured tanker in the Malacca strait near northern Sumatra. Clearly such threats are global and we must destroy capitalism to survive.

WE'RE OUT HERE FOR THEM

There was an inspiring response to the support-appeals for jailed anarchists Kenny Tollia and Andre Villaverde.

Kenny was jailed after a police riot in New York. Support petitions were sent from Scotland, England, Sweden, Poland and the ex-USSR. Free Kenny demos rallied at US embassies in Warsaw, Minsk, and Moscow.

The International Day of Action for Peruvian anarchist Andre Villaverde (see CI 35) saw demos at Peruvian embassies and consulates in Budapest, Mexico City, Bonn, Hamburg, Ottawa, San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York

THEY'RE IN THERE FOR US

African comrades are requesting urgent assistance. 4 members of the Nigerian (libertarian socialist) Awareness League were arrested during worker/student demos against increased repression as Nigeria squirms under the iron heel of a World Bank/IMF austerity programme. Despite an ostensible 'return to democracy', union-busting, press censorship, university closure and arbitrary arrest are commonplace.

The 4 - Udemba Chuks, Garba Adu, Kingsley Etioni and James Ndubuisi - are being held in inhuman conditions along with human rights activists, civil rights lawyers and student and trade union organisers. The Awareness League is calling for demos outside Nigerian embassies and consulates between 22 and 26 February. Donations are also much needed. For info contact : Awareness League, c/o Samuel Mbah, PO Box 28, Agbani, Enugu State, Nigeria. And Workers Solidarity Alliance, 339 Lafayette St. Rm. 202, NY, NY 10012, USA. Tel. 212 979 8353.

Fighting Burnsall Tyranny

Workers at Burnsall metal Finishing plant in Smithwick, West Midlands have been on strike since 15th June 1992!.The workers, mainly Asian women are fighting for a safe workplace, union recognition, equal pay and an end to excessive overtime.

Since the strike began, the police have constantly tried to intimidate the strikers and have, as usual, shown their outright support for the employers.Despite the managements attempts to mobilise scabs the strike has continued. On Saturdays the picket line frequently numbers 300.

A victory has already been won in that the DSS has agreed to backdate unemployment benefit on grounds of 'unfair dismissal'Solidarity action and a boycott of Burnsalls products is being sought.In the 90's with the ban on secondary picketing and other anti-union legislation making it harder than ever to mobilise through traditional trade union structures, community action is vital

Info. :Burnsall Strikers . Support Committee,c/o Londec, Instrument House,205/217 Kings Cross Rd, London WC1X 9DB Tel: 071 713 7907.

TEAR DOWN THE WALLS

Prisoners continue to fight back.

August '92 : active resistance by women in Lexington (Kentucky) Federal Prison. About 100 women, including Jamaican, Haitian, Afro-American, Latina and white, refused to return to their cells, to protest racist staff brutality. 12 were immediately transferred; next day the protest continued and cells were set alight. One woman prisoner said "For a few moments we felt free."

12 December : Prisoners in Perth Prison, Scotland rioted and took a screw hostage to protest the soul-destroying practice of video-recording all visits from loved ones. 3 prisoners have been charged.

Christmas Day : 25 cons in top-security Long Lartin went on hunger-strike to highlight wrongful convictions and brutality. They were joined by prisoners in other jails.

Boxing Day : 50 untried prisoners in Reading Remand liberated and rearranged a wing in frustration at the too-long incarceration before trial. (Commonly more than a year. Over half of those remanded are eventually acquitted without recompense.) 8 screws were hospitalised. The insurgents then tried to smash through the main-gate in a prison van. 150 drafted-in screws crushed the revolt.***But they can't crush the spirit of revolt.***

28 December : Some Long Lartin prisoners still on hunger strike.

JOHN PEROTTI

Framed prison activist John Perotti is being subjected to increased harassment by the authorities. Send him a card, he needs your solidarity.

Cards and leaflets from JP Defence Fund, c/o 45a Bedford Ave., Aberdeen AB2 3YL

John Perotti, POB 1368, no.167712, Mansfield, Ohio 44901, USA.

Sources: Love and Rage, On Gogol Boulevard, Bad Attitude, Shotts prisoners. Compiled by Edinburgh ABC.

COUNTER INFORMATION

The boot is on the other foot

(photoPaula Solloway)

Over 150 people joined an angry demonstration outside Leeds central police station to protest at police action at an earlier ACT-UP mobilisation, where three demonstrators had been arrested, held in isolation and questioned about their HIV status. Within half an hour of the picket, police chiefs conceded two of ACT-UP's three demands. Direct action gets the goods!

Up to 4 millon people took to the streets of Germany towards the end of '92 - to protest against State racism and fascist violence. This included a rise in counter offensive attacks on neo-nazis.

On 8th November, 350,000 marched in **Berlin** at a Government sponsored rally. Faced with such hypocrisy, autonomists splattered politicians with paint & eggs. On 9th Nov100,000 commemorated Kristallnacht,during which 40 Turks occupied the Christian Democrat regional office accusing them of complicity in racist murders. On 21st Nov.,masked anti-fascists attacked a restaurant in **Erfurt** and smashed up the place & fascist diners. On 6th December in Munich and Augsberg ,and 13th December in **Frankfurt and Hamburg** huge demonstrations occurred. On 12th December, croat,serb,turkish and german workers from a local engineering firm held a silent march through **Dussoldorf**. With polls showing a huge drop in nazi support on the refugee issue Nazi meetings were broken up in **Weisbaden** on 23rd Jan. as they complained of being *"the victims of a pogrom"*!

250,000 demonstrated in **Vienna,Austria** on 23rd January against the anti-immigration policies of Jorg Haider & the so-called Freedom Party. Although their nationwide petition reached the 400,000(7%) threshold to force a parliamentary debate,this was less than half what the neo-fascists had predicted.In **Belgium** on 24th October,50,000 demonstrated in **Brussels**.

In **Rome** on 9th November for Kristallnacht and 28th January throughout **Italy** huge protests took place..On 12th December,similar widespread protests commemorated the 23rd anniversary of the Piazza Fontana bombings by fascists and the state secret services. A neo-nazi building was stormed by italian jewish youth objecting to anti-semitic stickers in Rome. Throughout Italy footballers protested against racist abuse from some fans.

FIGHTING THE FORTRESS

In **Spain** 200 were mobilised in **Zaragossa** to defend a house squatted by a libertarian collective from attack by 200 facists on 20th November. Next day,central **Madrid** was blocked off by a porotest against the killing of a women from the Dominican Republic. On the 22nd,in **Vitoria and Barcelona**, thousands marched against a deportation of 30 Algerians by the Civil Governor.

In **Britain**,community based campaigns against the planned deportation of William Weekes and Tony Deane are victorious. A campaign has been trying to prevent the tory council in Ealing from changing the name of Blair Peach schools in **Southall** (in memory of the murdered anti-nazi activist). On 7th November,1,000 people participated in a march to commemorate racist murders such as Prohit Duggal. The next day, in York and London anti-fascists were active against nazis during 'Remembrance Sunday'.

On 28th November, 1,500 attended the annual march in **Glasgow** against racism & fascism,during which a small BNP counter demo was chased away by angry demonstrators & only saved from a beating by the police. On 17th December the Drummond Street Defence Campaign picketed **Acton** Magistrates Court in support of Muzibur Rahman and Sahab Uddin, 2 bengalis framed by police. On 12th January in Stoke Newington 400 marched on the police station on the 10th anniversary of Colin Roach's death in police custody. On 23 January in **Edinburgh**, hundreds marched against the Asylum Bill which threatens to send refugees back to torture or death. The speeches were by activists rather than politicians. On 29th Jan. 3 **Newham** Monitoring staff were ambushed by a group of white racists using weapons, Hossein Zahir received severe head injuries but is recovering. On 2 Feb. charges of threatening behaviour were dropped against a victim of police assault, Gill Smith in Newham East **Info:** ***PO Box 273,Forest Gate, London E7. Tel.081-555-8151.***

More ANTI RACIST CONTACTS

Southall Monitoring Group, 6a South Rd., Southall, Middlesex UB1 1RT. Tel. 081 843 2333.

Refugees Ad Hoc Committee for Asylum Rights Tel. 071 738 6408.

Anti Fascist Action Northern Network, Box 151, 52 Call Lane, Leeds LS1 6DT. Lothian Campaign Against Racism and Fascism, PO Box 474, Edinburgh EH11 2 QT.

info on Germany from Anti-Racism office,Sielwall 38, 2800 Bremen.

Naked Aggression

In the north of the Philippines, villages such as Aguid have successfully resisted so-called "development" schemes which would destroy their communities & culture. Central Government plans to 'drown' villages,burial sites and fields to interfere with the Chico River and start large-scale mining were resisted on the initiative of women.

Faced with bulldozers,the women used a taboo against men viewing naked women to advance unclothed and the operators fled in panic. Elsewhere, in central Mindanao,the southern most island where a civil war has been raging for decades,over 2,500 troops have been deployed to implement a Geo-thermal project on the slopes of Mt. Apo. Villagers are resisting the clearing of their forests and way of life.

In India, opposition to the massive Narmada Valley Development Project involving the "relocation" of a million people has forced a World Bank rethink of funding Dam building but this is only a stay in its execution and brutal repression against villagers continues.

A WORLD TO WIN

Building Resistance:

On the average 3 building workers are killed every week. In light of this the Construction Safety Campaign (CSC) organised a march in London on 25th November '92 which was attended by 1,000 building workers, supporters, and relatives of those who had been killed or maimed in the construction industry

Counter Information is doing a fuller article in the near future,from asbestos poisoning to negligence. Any info on the subject of resistance to this would be much appreciated.

United - We Win!

The decision of Hoover workers in Cambuslang, Glasgow to accept lower wages in order to attract more jobs is a mistake. Outraged by Hoover's plans to close their factory as a result workers in Dijon, France are campaigning against present-day policies of playing one group of workers off against another. Remember, capitalism has no national allegiance!

Contesting Conquest

A threat to disrupt a Columbas Day parade by 500 supporters of the American Indian Movement was successful on Oct. 11th '92 in Denver, Colorado. Elsewhere in Mexico and Bolivia tens of thousands of peasants protested and in Ecuador,indians blocked the Pan-American highway. In San Francisco, a staged "re-enactment" of the landing was disrupted by a breakaway group of 200 from a tame leftist march.

(info Profane Existence).

Revolting Pupils

Agitation in Athens and other Greek towns includes occupations of 140 schools by school students revolting against imposed exams.

Sanity Claus!

Late December, Paris, France; Around 100 homeless people took over the lobby of the luxury George V hotel to hold a Christmas party. During the party homeless children were given presents. The party was arranged to highlight the lack of housing available to the poor.

Riots & Molotovs

9-11 Oct; At Vaulx en Velin (in Lyon) an eighteen year old youth who had to pass a police blockade was beaten by a cop. In reaction to this, during 3 days, 150 to 400 set fire to cars and attacked the police station with molotovs, stones, fire etc. 8 youths were arrested by the 300 police brought from Lyon to "restore order". The police chief, who had to justify the violence and repression, declared "This was nothing like a social revolt. These acts were committed by delinquents".

16 Oct; About 30 youths attacked a police station in Asnieres (Paris suburb) with incendiary bombs and molotovs. Four cops were injured. This followed the death of a 24 year old man who committed suicide after his arrest. (A.Infos,France)

Women march in Leeds (photoPaula Solloway)

WOMEN took to the streets of Leeds in January in a show of strength and solidarity. After a series of rapes and assaults women have received scaremongering 'advice' from media and police to stay at home and never travel alone. A busy junction was blocked for half an hour by demonstrators asserting their freedom to travel wherever, whenever and however, in safety.

A similar demo took place in Edinburgh on 29 January when women marched to "Reclaim the Night," while in December marchers in Cardiff demanded better street lighting and evening transport. On 28 November 4,000 women demonstrated in London to mark the International Day to End Violence against Women and protest against world-wide attacks on women's rights and bodies.

CONTRA-FLOW

AN important struggle against ruling class transport needs is going on near Winchester. Faced with the Dept of Transport decision to cut through Twyford Down to plug a gap in the M3, 40 or so people camped out on the site, including around 10 who call themselves the 'Donga tribe.'

'Donga' refers to the Down's many Iron Age (Celtic) trackways, some of which are up to 20 feet deep. The land also contains a prehistoric village. Active resistance has continued for over a year.

In December, after Winchester College took the *squatters to court to evict them, 80 security men with bulldozers steamed into the pathways. People resisted, throwing themselves in front of bulldozers* and climbing trees, but were finally beaten with considerable violence. Some women protesters were sexually assaulted.

Twyford Down is a funny struggle. First, the local Great and Good, mainly Tory, clearly object to Whitehall johnnies interfering on their patch, and some even seem to back the squatters. This can only obscure the relatively recent appearance in one of England's snottiest-nosed cities of a stratum of caravan-dwelling long-term unemployed people, whose tendency to stand together on the Down 'issue' must be causing serious shivers among College masters, local judiciary, clergy and the rich.

Second, there are the 'Donga' minority: while they are against the government and are taking direct action, they also make an absurd appeal to the Royal family to save the Down!

More positively, though, also in December, Winchester Class War organised the city's first ever 'March Against the Rich.' Excellent! Road-blocking and direct resistance to Tarmac is good, but we hope that in '93 the trouble on the Down will spread into the town itself. Bollocks to the Queen! As the American anarchist Lucy Parsons put it : "Devastate the avenues where the wealthy live!"

***South Downs Earth First!, c/o Prior House, Tilbury Place, Brighton BN2. Earth Info Line** 0225 44133.*

RECLAIM THE STREETS!

IN BRITAIN cars and lorries kill 5000 and injure 200,000 each year. In what used to be safe play areas and vibrant meeting places they also cause untold levels of ill health, lead-poisoning, noise-related stress, aggravated asthma, etc.

Residents of Tottenham, London, sick of child-deaths, pollution, rat-runs, danger-spots and lorries on the streets, have started to fight back. Already residents of Dorsett Road have blocked roads to stop commercial lorries putting children in danger; people in Mount Pleasant Road won speed restrictions after putting up homemade signs saying '20 MPH ZONE '; and100 adults and children set up a road block in Green Lanes.

Info: Tottenham Community Action. T'ham Solidarity Group meets every other Tuesday at 72 Wood Green Road at 7.30. Tel 081 802 9804.

NURSES' ACTION

LONDON HOSPITALS were put on official alert in early January because of a beds/cash shortage. Patients were thrown out and only emergencies admitted. The government want to shut 1 in 4 London hospitals, with similar closures elsewhere.

In late November a nurses' strike and occupation at University College Hospital forced the reopening of a 22 bed ward, the promise of consultation in future, the return of student nurses to the ward and no victimisation for those taking part. Patients, porters and the local community all gave support.

Now the authorities want to shut UCH completely in July. Determined to fight, workers have already voted to ballot for an occupation.

GET INVOLVED !

If you like Counter Info, we invite you to write to us, and also to the other groups listed below :

AK Distribution, 22 Lutton Place, Edinburgh (mags, pamphlets, books - write for new catalogue)

Anarchist Commnist Federation, c/o 84b Whitechapel High St., London E1 7QX (contacts Britain-wide)

Attack International BM6577 London WCIN 3XX

Autonomous Assembly, c/o FUN, 28 King St., Glasgow G1 5QP (network to link struggles in Scotland)

Class War : PO Box 1021, Edinburgh EH8 9PW : PO Box 496, Glasgow G14 0PG (Britain-wide & international)

London Greenpeace, 5 Caledonian Rd., London N1

Norwich Solidarity Centre and **Norwich Direct Action Movement** - both at : PO Box 73, Norwich NR1 2EB

Stockbridge New Town Solidarity Network, c/o J.Ball, 24 Dean Pk. St., Edinburgh EH4 1JT

Tottenham Solidarity Network, c/o 72 West Green Rd., London N15

(If your group would like to be considered for listing, please write to CI in Edinburgh.)

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For info on CI distribution and revolutionary activities in the north of England please write to Counter Info, c/o 52 Call Lane, Leeds LS1 6DT.

For all other matters please write COUNTER INFO, PIGEONHOLE CI, C/O 11 FORTH ST., EDINBURGH EH1, SCOTLAND.

(This issue went to press 7 February 1993)

WORLD TO WIN

DAN DARE

A DISABLED anti "Children in Need" demo on 20 November saw over 70 people blockading entrances to the BBC TV studios in London.

"Disabled children are in need because television portrays them as either pathetic, sad victims or courageous brave heroes. The BBC must put a stop to abuses of this nature. They have not got our permission," stated the Direct Action Network.

DAN, 68 Alexandra Court, Empire Way, London HA9 OQP.

IN THE ANTI TELETHON action in July '92 a 1,000 strong crowd burst from the confines of its barricades and blocked the entrances to the London Weekend TV studios.

These protests highlight the fact that disabled people should have their needs met as of right rather than being forced to rely on charity.

GOING, GOING....

THE HATED poll tax will be abolished in April. Resistance continues to collection efforts. November saw crowds of locals successfully defending non-payers' homes in West Lothian from sheriff officers. In Lambeth 41% have yet to pay a penny!

The introduction of the replacement Council Tax is being accompanied by massive cuts in Council jobs and services. Scattered anti cuts strikes are breaking out in Councils country-wide.

Lothian APT Hotline 031 557 0718. London Fight the Poll Tax 081 692 9181 (John). NW APT Forum 061 707 1584 (info on public services/ communities unity conferences)

THE McLIBEL TWO

THE McLIBEL Support Campaign are calling for a week of protests before the libel trial of the 2 London Greenpeace supporters being sued by McDonalds Hamburger Corp.. A demo will beseige the High Court on the first day of the trial, expected this summer. *McLibel SC, London Greenpeace, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1. 081 837 7557.*

Liquidating the Stock

Workers occupying a Forges de Clabecq steelworks in Belgium protesting about a threatened 10% paycut in December seized 7,000 bottles of wine from the Company cellars and threatened to sell them at 200 francs each.

EMERGENCY APPEAL

AS we go to the printers we are well short of the cash needed to meet our postage and print costs. Please send donations as soon as possible, to enable us to continue publishing Counter Info.